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THE SPECTATOR

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A.G. Lafley '69 will hold two open hours, one for students and one for faculty, on Thursday, October 2.

New Trustee Chairman Lafley '69 Back on the Hill

by Hali Baumstein '11
News Writer

As the creator of familiar product brands like Duracell, CoverGirl cosmetics, Herbal Essences, Bounty, Tide, Crest toothpaste, and Folgers coffee, Procter & Gamble has already played a big part in the lives of Hamilton students. And now, the school will be even more closely tied to the globally active company: Procter and Gamble's CEO, Hamilton alumnus A. G. Lafley '69, has just become the chair of the Board of Trustees.

Lafley grew up in Oak Park, Illinois, a town he eventually left so he could attend Hamilton. While on the Hill, Lafley joined the Psi Upsilon fraternity. After graduating, he served as a supply officer for the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. Next, he went to Harvard Business School, where he achieved his Master of Business Administration degree in 1977. Upon graduation, he began working at Procter & Gamble, where he eventually obtained the position of president in 2000 and CEO in 2002. He is often credited with the impressive task of revitalizing the company.

In December 2007, after former chair Stuart Scott '61 decided to step down, the Board of Trustees unanimously elected Lafley as the new chair. He and new vice-chairman Jeff Little '71 officially took their positions during the summer. "Both men are very committed," said Meredith Harper Bonham, Executive Assistant to President Stewart and Secretary to the Board of Trustees. "They have served their alma mater in significant ways, and they were natural choices for the jobs."

In conjunction with Fallcoming, the members of the Board of Trustees will be coming to campus next weekend for their first meeting of the school year. Lafley will arrive early on Thursday, October 2 to speak with both students and faculty that afternoon. An open hour for students and faculty will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the KJ Commons. Students will be free to attend and ask Lafley questions.

As the weekend progresses, Lafley will play a crucial role in making important decisions about the college. On Friday, the Board of Trustees will hold meetings for their various subcommittees to discuss topics such as the college's budget and next year's tuition. "Almost all of the committees include student and faculty representatives," said Bonham, referencing the students as an important part of the meetings. "This ensures communication across all government bodies."

see ***Lafley****, page 3*

Students Celebrate Ramadan with Fast-a-Thon

by Julia Mulcrone '11
News Writer

On Wednesday, over one hundred Hamilton students participated in the second annual Ramadan Fast-A-Thon, a day of fasting open to the Hamilton community that mirrors the month-long fasting of billions of Muslims during Ramadan. Hosted by the Muslim Students' Association, the Fast-A-Thon allowed both Muslim and non-Muslim students to come together to experience one of the holiest observances for followers of Islam.

Ramadan began on September 2. During this thirty-day period, Muslims commemorate the revealing of the Qur'an to the prophet Muhammad with fasting, alms-giving and heightened prayer in order to increase holiness.

President of the Muslim Student Association Abdelwahab Abdelghany '10 stated that, "fasting allows people to reflect on how much they have and how much others don't." He added that it "teaches students self-discipline."

While a day-long fast for the Fast-A-Thon sounds effortless in comparison to the month-long fast undertaken by Muslims, for the one hundred and ten participants the day was not without its challenges. Participants who signed up in Beinecke received a handout of Ramadan fasting guidelines that explained that any eating, drinking (including water), chewing gum, smoking, taking medication, and partaking in sexual relations would all be prohibited from sunrise to sunset on the day of the Fast-A-Thon. Despite these restrictions, the handout urged participants to continue the twelve-hour fast regardless of any missteps.

The day culminated in a traditional feast provided by the Muslim Students' Association that rewarded the efforts of the fasters. The Phoenician, a Lebanese Restaurant in New Hartford, catered the post-sunset

see ***Fast-a-Thon****, page 2*

Students from the Muslim Student Association serve traditional food to students who fasted on Wednesday.

IMF: "Figuring it Out"

by Scott Bixby '11
News Editor

More information on the events leading up to the suspension of the Independent Music Fund's (IMF) ability to request funds from Student Assembly for the academic year is coming to the surface, with IMF rising to defend its actions as the logical, if regrettable, consequences of a request-based budget. The Student Activities Office, however, contends that with enough planning in the spring semester, IMF could have booked a full fall schedule without needing to resort to booking during the summer.

As a result of an accidental violation of Hamilton College funding policy, IMF was put on financial probation, and will be unable to book artists or host shows beyond those already booked last year. This includes Mayday, the springtime festival for which IMF traditionally books the opening acts while the Campus Activities Board (CAB) finances the headliner.

IMF, unlike CAB, does not have a set budget, and must submit proposals to the Student Assembly Funding Committee in order to secure financing for concerts. According to Chris Rand '09,

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MSA Fast-a-Thon

*from **Fast-a-Thon**, page 1*

meal that featured such traditional foods as hummus, babaganoush, kabobs, and baklava. In an effort to remain as authentic as possible, The Muslim Students' Association arranged for a supplier in Syracuse to provide the Phoenician with halal meat, the meat coming from animals slaughtered in accordance with Islamic law.

Bon Appétit contributed to the event by agreeing to donate anywhere from six hundred to seven hundred dollars to "Our Neighbors," a local charity chosen by the Muslim Students' Association that reaches out to the elderly and disabled. According to Patrick Raynard, Bon Appétit was willing to use the money for the Wednesday meals that the students did not eat but already paid for in their meal plans. He said that before the Fast-A-Thon, "[Bon Appétit] has never had a group effort" come to them and ask for this unique kind of donation, but the management company was happy to help. The Fast-A-Thon accomplished the alms-giving facet of Ramadan through this charitable contribution.

Abdelghany said that one of the goals of the Fast-A-Thon was to "promote a better understanding of Islam to the Hamilton Community," which has a small population of about twenty practicing Muslims. Alia Rehman'10, a coordinator of the Fast-A-Thon, found that many of the non-Muslim participants either had friends who were Muslim, or were Jewish and understood fasting within the context of Judaism. Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Asron Spevack, spoke briefly at the event, following the serving of dinner. He wanted to enlighten the participants saying, "one child every five minutes dies," he continued by saying that he would like to see, "positive changes from people like you and me." Furthermore, he wanted people to perform and think about, "changes that will benefit others."

Regarding the Hamilton Community's attitude toward the Fast-A-Thon, Rehman said, "There are some people who are great and very open-minded and other people who don't really want to hear about it." Despite some critics, the Ramadan Fast-A-Thon succeeded in raising awareness in the Hamilton community of an Islamic holy tradition. Abdelghany adds that "we [gave the Hamilton Community] an opportunity to actually partake in three of the five pillars in Islam: fasting, praying, and giving alms."

Student Assembly Talks Spectator Endorsements

by Amanda Jordan '10
Student Assembly Correspondent

On September 22, 2008, the Student Assembly held their first meeting of the semester with the new freshmen class officers. They began the meeting by welcoming the first years, and later the Elections Committee reported that around 60 percent of the first years had voted in the elections last week. The majority of the meeting, however, was devoted to discussing with representatives from *The Spectator* the issue of the newspaper endorsing a Student Assembly presidential and vice presidential candidate for the elections in November. *The Spectator* argued that their main goal is to help raise awareness about the election by playing an active role in engaging the student body. They would like to promote discussion about the campaign issues. Representatives from the newspaper discussed numerous ways in which they hope to create greater student involvement.

They plan to publish candidates' platforms and interviews with the candidates conducted by the Editorial Board. Additionally, they want to select a presidential and vice presidential candidate to endorse. This would entail a diverse group of twenty-five editors selecting a pair of candidates and then having one person write an editorial about why their platform would be the most beneficial based upon the issues the candidates support.

After members from *The Spectator* staff explained their arguments, the Student Assembly voiced many questions and concerns. Some noted that *The Spectator* is the most widely read publication on campus, giving it an advantage over other publications that would choose to endorse their own candidates. Other Student Assembly members offered suggestions for improvement upon the idea of endorsing a candidate. One member thought that it would be more beneficial for everyone if *The Spectator* endorsed specific issues, rather than specific candidates. Another idea consisted of notifying the candidates who were not endorsed by the newspaper to allow them to write a response, if they wished, and have it published next to the endorsement. Overall, the Student Assembly plans on working out a compromise with *The Spectator* in the coming weeks. They are very appreciative of *The Spectator's* desire to increase awareness about the elections.

Other issues discussed towards the end of the meeting included funding, Fall Fest and the ad hoc Technology Committee. Several groups received funding this past week, amounting to a total of $1,359.74, which was unanimously passed. The Social Traditions Committee announced that Fall Fest will be held on October 26 from 12 – 4 p.m. downtown. In addition, the ad hoc Technology Committee will start soon, and may include a student from ITS to serve on the committee as well. Further updates on committees, funding and the issue regarding *The Spectator* will be discussed next week.

IMF Responds to a Concerned Student Body

*from **IMF**, page 1*

leader of IMF, this makes booking musical acts over the summer "next to impossible."

In an interview with *The Spectator*, Rand explained what he described as the last-minute "scramble" to find an act for the early fall. Originally IMF had an act, either Boys Noize or MSTRKRFT, tentatively scheduled for late August. The booking, however, fell through.

"The agent for Boys Noize and MSTRKRFT kept us on the line for about a month without an official offer for either artist, which meant we could not pursue other possibilities. Then, he booked both acts to larger venues in NYC and we were left with no show and a budget for a 'techno show,'" said Rand.

IMF made further attempts to engage agents, and submitted an official offer to bring Hercules and Love Affair to Hamilton on October 25. "We were very excited about this, and I get the sense Student Activities was also," stated Rand, "but the people who would be running the show (myself included) realized they would be in NYC for a conference. Thus, we retracted the offer and continued looking for artists."

Director of Student Activities Lisa Magnarelli '96 views this retraction as a key misstep by IMF that lead to the unintentional booking of Yeasayer and the suspension of its funding. Speaking with *The Spectator*, Magnarelli stated, "In my experience, I have watched many organizations, including the IMF, successfully book entertainment a semester in advance." Regarding the withdrawal from the Hercules and Love Affair show, Magnarelli asserted that the search for a new act was a mess of IMF's own making. "[IMF] decided to change the date, which didn't work for the artist. That's how they ended up scrambling for a new show over the summer. It didn't have to be that way."

IMF was eventually able to book Jamie Liddell for an October 11 show through the Windish Agency, which later contacted IMF about a possible date of availability for Yeasayer. It was during these talks that IMF indicated a tentative date for Yeasayer to perform, a possible price and expressed the desire to book, and the Windish Agency took that interest as a legally binding contract to perform.

Liddell's appearance was eventually funded through WHCL, which will now refrain from sponsoring any further events for the remainder of the academic year. Despite the infeasibility of funding any further musical appearances this year, WHCL's leader, Rory Pavach '10, stated, "WHCL doesn't regret its participation in either show… WHCL will refrain from sponsoring or co-sponsoring concerts featuring professional musicians next semester, but only because we co-sponsored two huge concerts this semester."

While IMF is effectively prohibited from planning or coordinating any musical events for the year, Rand declared that IMF would be back for the 2009-2010 academic year, with a closer relationship with the Student Activities Office than before. "We're hoping to work more closely with Paul [Ryan, Assistant Director of Student Activities] and Lisa [Magnarelli], so that they know what we're doing, and we can get more funding."

Magnarelli agreed that in order to keep IMF in working order, it needs to go through the appropriate channels. "It's about communication and transparency," she stated. "Sometimes an organization has to spend a lot of time educating the Assembly so they are more likely to provide funding."

As far as the future of Mayday goes, Rand is optimistic. "For now. It's run its course, but who knows what the relationship between CAB and IMF will be in the future? Hopefully we can arrange a concert that the entire campus can get behind."

TKE Raises Money for Red Cross

by Kate Tummarello '11
Insights and Ideas Editor

On Thursday, September 18, the members of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity planted themselves on Martin's Way to collect donations for the American Red Cross' Disaster Relief Fund. Between 10 in the morning and 4 in the afternoon over one hundred people, including students, staff members, and professors, stopped and donated money.

Overall the donations totaled $346, which will go towards providing the victims of disasters across the country, including the hurricanes that have already happened this year, with food, shelter, and mental health services.

As can be seen from the amount of money that was donated throughout the day, the response on campus to the fundraiser was incredibly positive. TKE member Matt Gabriel '11 was impressed that "people still felt compelled to donate so generously even though the cause wasn't directly related to them."

Other organizations supported TKE and the American Red Cross by donating. The international fraternity Theta Delta Chi donated $80 to the cause, and students and professors donated independently all day.

Those that stopped by the TKE table on Martin's way and donated money are helping the Red Cross in responding to the more than 70,000 disasters that occur each year. These include the fires, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes, as well as the hazardous material spills and transportation accidents. According to the Red Cross, donations of time and money go towards fulfilling the "duties and obligations to the nation, to disaster victims and to the people who generously support its work with their donations." The donations made last Thursday are what make the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund possible.

This is the fifth year that TKE has participated in supporting fundraisers for the American Red Cross. The members hope to continue in the future, encouraged by the support they have received from the campus and the success they have achieved.

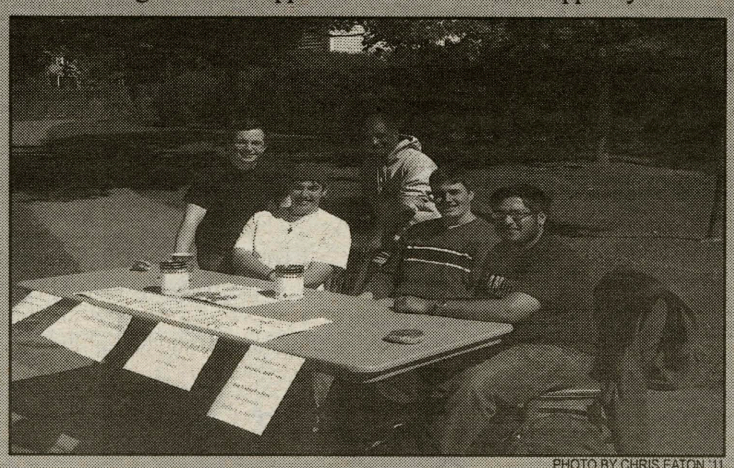


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Left to right: Dave Brown '09, Matt Gabriel '11, Adam Boles '11, Wes Kirby '10 and Sitanshu Mishra '10.

Freshmen Class Votes for Representatives

by Kara Labs '09
News Editor

Student Assembly (SA) has now gotten officially started after filling in spots reserved for the first year class officers and representatives. SA held Class of 2012 elections by sending out the ballot online to the freshmen class last week, and the results are in. The newly elected class officers are: Class President Adam Minchew, Secretary/Tresurer Sara Scheinson, Honor Court Representative Tyler Roberts and Class Representatives Laura Gilson, David Ginsberg, Annie Hull, Richard Maass and Andrew Taub.

Honor Court Representative Tyler Roberts '12, who hails from Seattle, Washington and attended Eastside Catholic High School and was very involved in Mock Trial for three years, coached basketball, was very involved in student leadership and had a significant role in the senior gift campaign at his high school.

"I wanted to be on the Honor Court because I'm very interested in judicial systems," stated Roberts. "In the future, I think I'd like to become an attorney and possibly a judge afterward. I also think that I will perform well on the Honor Court because I am very objective and can focus only on the facts."

Roberts is very optimistic that the lasting impression left by the Class of 2012 will be able to make on the College other than merely upholding the legacy of being the bicentennial class. "I hope our class can leave a lasting impact on Hamilton. Everyone has talked about how we're unique because we're the bicentennial class, but I'd like us to be remembered for who we are and what we do rather than the fact that we happen to be the 200th class to come through here."

Finally, Roberts would like to say to the class of 2012, jokingly but with a touch of seriousness, "Hopefully I won't see you in front of the Honor Court!"

Laura Gilson '12, elected class representative, hopes to be very involved with her class through student government. "It's really different; I came from a larger high school and we had a filled the auditorium for student government when I did it in high school."

Laura lives in Sparta, NJ and spent four years in student government at her high school and was also on the Executive Board as Charity Chair. From what she has seen so far from the first meeting with Student Assembly last week she commented that, "it is more intense with voting…and we seem to be able to have a bigger effect on the campus through the different committees."

To her class, Gilson would like to say that she would consider herself an approachable person and that she is "Really excited to be a part of this. People with concerns and ideas will hopefully come forward and speak with us."

Annie Hull '12, another newly elected class representative, hails from Newtown, CT. In high school she participated in student government and really enjoyed it, saying, "I got to observe and be active in what went on behind the scenes of a small society. I think that the Student Assembly at Hamilton is even closer representation of an actual government, and that is what excites me, to learn what it is to run a democratic society, firsthand."

She is excited about being a part of SA and further commented, "My reason for joining the student assembly is [because this organization] has a role in a large range of areas at Hamilton. I don't really know what to expect but I am excited to try it out and meet some more cool people."

Andrew Taub '12, came here from New York City and was recently elected as a class representative. He also participated in Student Council and presided as President his senior year. In addition to that he was a part of Student Government and had an interest continuing his involvement in college.

He is anxious to learn more about the organization of Student Assembly, but has a few ideas for improvements already. "I would like to see that all the pianos on campus are tuned and [I would like to see if] the amount of flies in Commons subsides due to a new fan installation over the garbage area."

"More importantly, we [representatives] are soon to understand the system of Student Assembly which will let us determine what ideas and suggestions would be feasible, allowing us to represent our grade in the most effective way possible."

Richard Maass '12, one of the newly elected class representatives, comes from a small, rural town in Vermont. He does not have any specific plans for his class at this point and is still acclimating himself to the polices and procedures of SA. "My main concern at this point is voicing to interests and opinions of my classmates to the rest of the Hamilton community. Communication is vitally important."

He stated though that he has numerous reasons for joining SA. "I wanted to join Student Assembly simply because I wanted to be involved in the Hamilton community. It's important to be aware of the current issues and topics that concern us as students here at Hamilton. SA is a great way for me to be more informed on these issues, as well as an excellent means to become more involved. It's important for students to actively engage in their community."

In high school Maass served in student government for four years and was elected president his senior year. In addition to that he was also President of the National Honor Society and served on the district School Board as the student representative.

Maass concluded by saying, "To my fellow classmates, I just want to say congratulations on your acceptance to Hamilton, and I hope that we all have a fantastic year! Please feel free to e-mail me anytime if you have any concerns that you wish to be voiced at assembly [meetings] (rmaass@hamilton.edu). People have always told me that these next four years will be the best of our lives, and from what I've experienced so far, I don't doubt them!"

David Ginsberg comes to Hamilton College from New York City where he was vice president of the student body and helped draft the agenda on a bi-weekly basis. "I had the desire to join Student Assembly because I felt that this was the best way for my voice to be heard on campus. The fact that Student Assembly is given money to give back to the student body via clubs means that the Assembly has real power and I want to make sure this power is used wisely." David was also recently elected class representative.

In addition to that David commented that, "I want to make sure that my class is fully represented and educated about the process, so that their needs are addressed."

He concluded by saying, "To the class of 2012, this is a small school, so I won't be too hard to find. So please come and talk to me about any of your concerns."

Sara Scheineson, newly elected Treasurer/Secretary, is from Mclean, Virginia, a suburb outside Washington D.C. "As a freshman I view student assembly as another way to get involved in the Hamilton Community." Scheineson served as treasurer on student council in high school, was on the track and field team, something she plans to do here at Hamilton as well and served as a peer counselor.

Scheineson has optimistic ideas about interacting with the Hamilton community in a positive way right out of the gate. "I would love for the class of 2012 to bring some killer events to Hamilton and even though we're just freshman it would be great if we could impact the Hamilton community in a positive way."

Scheineson, like most the newly elected officers, presents a positive picture of life so far at Hamilton. "I have loved my first month at Hamilton, and I can't wait to meet more people on the Hamilton campus."

Adam Minchew '12, newly elected President was unavailable for comment.

Lafley Speaking

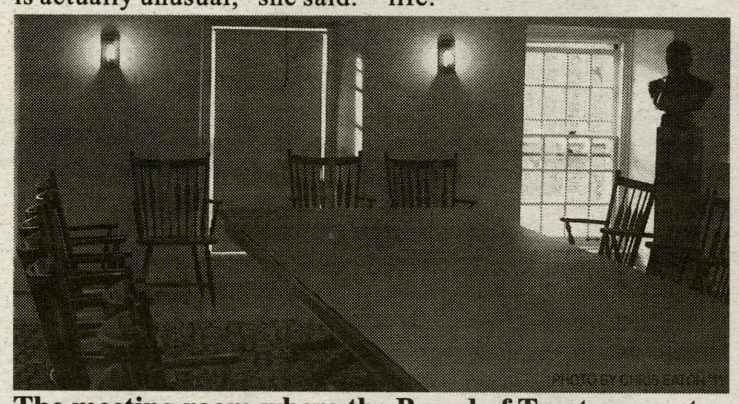
*from **Lafley**, page 1*

All of the trustees, including Lafley, will participate in a number of other events as well. They will attend various lunches with students, including the Comstock Luncheon, a special event that gives scholarship students the opportunity to meet the people who make their scholarships possible. Later, a dinner will be held with the alumni council, celebrating former Board of Trustees chair Stuart Scott.

Bonham describes Hamilton's Board of Trustees as consisting mainly of alumni and students' parents. "This is actually unusual," she said. "That's not always true for other schools."

A group of such dedicated and influential trustees offers the student body a wealth of opportunities to network and make their voices heard. According to Bonham, these opportunities will not be hard to take advantage of. "Trustees love the opportunity to meet students firsthand," she said.

She cites Lafley, who plans to walk around campus and talk to people. "He wants to find out what's on their minds. He cares deeply about the college – the educational experience and the student life."



The meeting room where the Board of Trustees meets.

Eat Local, Save the World: Challenge Begins Tuesday

by Haley Riemer-Peltz '12
News Writer

On Tuesday, September 30, 2008, both Commons and McEwen dining halls will be serving the fourth annual "Eat Local Challenge." The event is held by Bon Appétit, Hamilton's catering company.

The Eat Local Challenge is held once a year at every Bon Appétit location across the country.

"For lunch, all of our cafés will serve items that are from a 150-mile radius of campus," stated Bon Appétit General Manger Patrick Raynard.

According to the Worldwatch Institute, in the United States, the food we eat travels between 1,500 and 2,500 miles to get from where it was grown to our plates. Shipping and trucking the food does incredible damage to the environment by contributing to global warming and air pollution.

By eating locally, the amount of resources wasted in transporting the food is dramatically reduced. Locally grown food is also more reliable because it is less likely to have pesticides, hormones, or antibiotics.

Supporting local farms is extremely important for the future of the community and helping to preserve local farms. Locally produced food is fresher and more flavorful than food that travels. On the other hand, non-local food is harvested early so it can be transported more efficiently for greater distances.

Locally grown food is harvested at its height of freshness, often being sold at markets within a day of being picked. Non-local food, however, may travel for more than seven days after having already been warehoused for several months.

The Eat Local Challenge is held every year to help spread awareness of the importance of eating locally and to highlight local products, but Bon Appétit uses local foods as much as possible throughout the year. "We strive to purchase at least 25 percent locally. We usually exceed that goal certain times of the year, but we're restricted somewhat by the area we live in," explained Raynard.

Hamilton students seem to be in support of the effort to prioritize local food. "I think the Eat Local Challenge is a really great idea because Hamilton is able to utilize the resources of local farmers instead of using fossil fuels to transport food across the country," commented Jeff Rabinowitz '12.

Some everyday local items in the dining halls are milk, ice cream, apples, yogurt, tomatoes and other seasonal items. Also, the coffee we drink on campus is brewed in Syracuse.

In addition to what will be served in the dining halls, there will be a "Local Showcase" tent on Dunham Quad featuring local products. "We'll be serving a meal of barbeque pork, baked beans and corn cake made by local vendors," stated Bon Appétit head chef, Reuben Haag.

More information can be found on the flyers on the tables of the dining halls or at the Bon Appétit website.

Hamilton to Host New York Conference on Asian Studies

by Meredith Kennedy '09
NEWS WRITER

On Friday September 26 and Saturday September 27, Hamilton will host the New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS). NYCAS is a regional conference of the Association for Asian Studies, a professional organization of approximately 7,000 specialists in the arts, languages, humanities and social sciences. Over 100 people from the tri-state area, as well as several foreign countries, are expected to attend the cultural event.

This year's theme is "Cultural Connections, Convergences, and Collisions: Past and Present. Members of the Association and guests will explore and discuss the role of Asian studies in a changing and globalizing world. Innovative readings of the team will include: Rethinking Boundedness, Interconnection in Asian History and culture, South-South connections in contemporary and historic frames, Trans-regional connections "within" Asian Histories, "Global" Asian communities and cultures, Asian-American Studies and the Asian Studies Curriculum.

As hosts of the 2008 NYCAS, the Asian Studies Program at Hamilton, directed by Lisa Trivedi, will present interesting roundtable discussions, exhibitions and panels featuring topics such as politics, film, communication studies, religion and art. The conference focuses on understanding the reorientation of Asian studies in society as the effects of globalization alter attitudes and approaches to the field. Scholars from across the nation, as well as India, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, Spain and Korea will be there to deliver presentations to the community.

Barbara Metcalf, the Alice Freeman Palmer Professor of History at the University of Michigan, will deliver the keynote address on Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Science Center. Her topic is "Telling the Tale of Islam: Reflections of Teleologies and Timelessness." Metcalf is a leading scholar of Islamic India who works to represent Islamic society more accurately outside of the Middle East.

In addition to the traditional panels and Keynote Address, the conference will offer six unique roundtable discussions highlighting identity concerns, international relations, effects of the Beijing Olympics and politics in Pakistan.

Other cultural events include three exhibitions of traditional and contemporary Chinese art in the Emerson Gallery, as well as an exhibition in Burke Library organized by Jia Huang '09, titled, "Hamilton in East Asia."

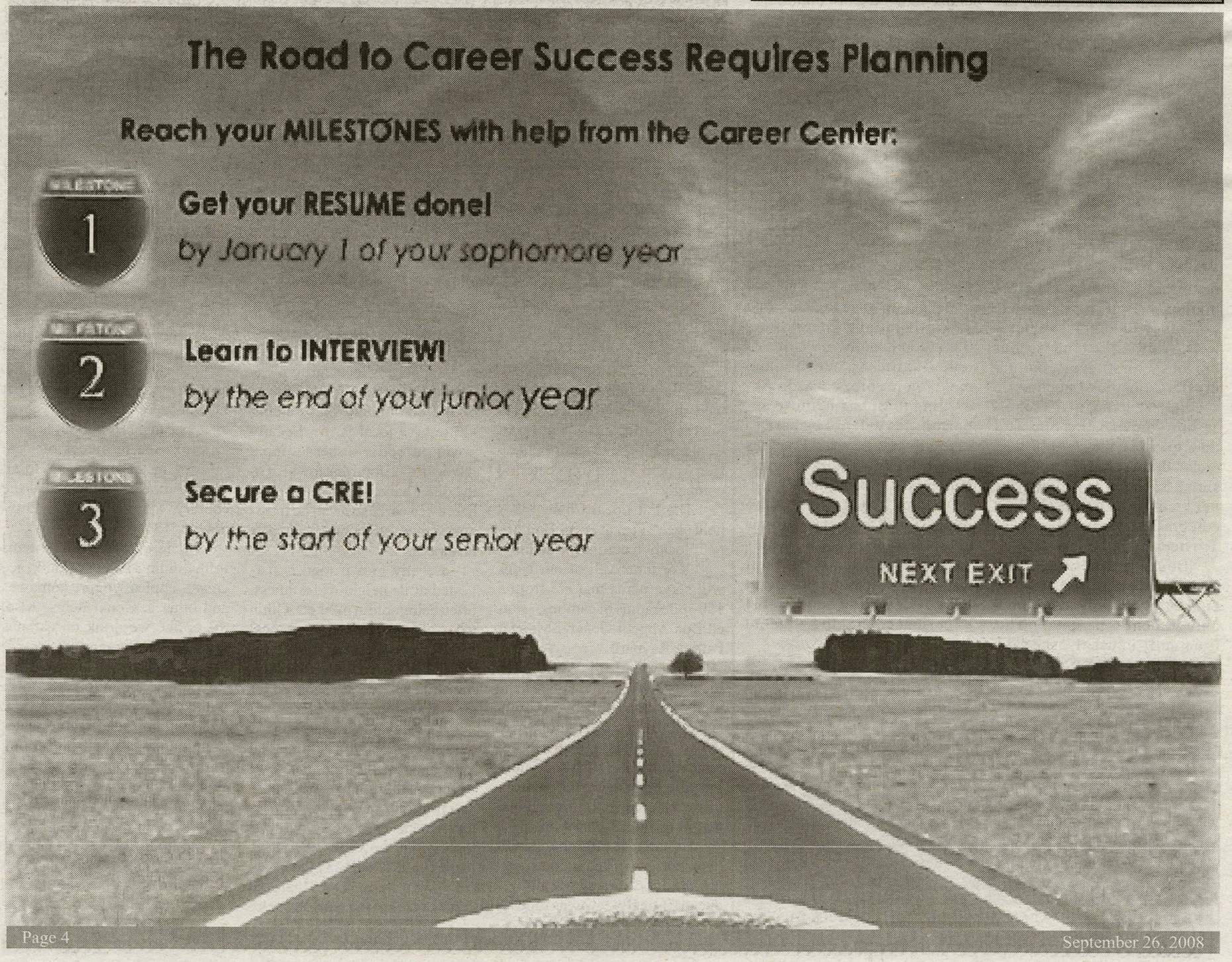
This weekend's conference will illustrate the breadth and depth of the Asian Studies Program at Hamilton. "My general hope is that the conference raises the profile of Asian Studies among both the students and faculty at Hamilton," said Trivedi, who has been planning the event for over a year now. The conference is sure to draw attention to Hamilton among people involved in Asian Studies, and will hopefully attract future keynote speakers to campus.

Registration is free for Hamilton students and faculty, and students of surrounding academic institutions, including Colgate, Utica College and SUNY IT are also welcome to attend at no cost.

Strategic Planning Community Meetings

Monday,
September 29th,
12:00 noon
Fillius Events Barn

Tuesday,
September 30th,
4:00 p.m.
Fillius Events Barn


The Road to Career Success Requires Planning
Reach your MILESTONES with help from the Career Center:
1
Get your RESUME done!
by January 1 of your sophomore year
2
Learn to INTERVIEW!
by the end of your junior year
3
Secure a CRE!
by the start of your senior year
Success
NEXT EXIT

THE SPECTATOR

An Open Mind

Along with the desire for freedom and alcohol, most of us came to college with the goal of learning. We learn from our classes, our experiences, both good and bad, and most importantly, from each other.

Here is one good lesson to learn: the great philosopher John Stuart Mill warned against the "tyranny of the majority." He says that the majority should never stifle any opposing views it comes up against. If opposing views are stifled, this majority eventually only hears support for their ideas and is never forced to question the validity of these ideas. All views should be heard, Mill argues. The fact that we learn so much from each other makes it dangerous to close our minds to people who have different ideas, but we see it happening all around us.

The idea of tyranny usually triggers mental images of dictators throughout history. However, this struggle between the opinions of the majority and the dissenting minority can be seen frequently on our campus, and in a way you probably would not expect. Although we all have the right to express our opinions, it can be intimidating to approach a group of likeminded people with a different perspective. When you finally get the courage to challenge the ideas of this group you may find them hostile to different ways of thinking. This only discourages people from expressing themselves in the future.

We as students, and members of our community, must force ourselves to learn by both questioning and being questioned. No one should ever be discouraged from doubting the ideas of another person or group. Instead we should approach each interaction with an open mind, believing in our own point of view, but eager to try to understand where the other person is coming from. Disagreements can be beneficial, but only if people are open to changing their minds.

We hear it all the time: "Of course I'm open minded. I'm a member of clubs X, Y, and Z, and I'm registered as a Democrat/Independent," but just because you think of yourself as a liberal does not mean you are open minded. Think about the last time you were approached by someone who had a completely different point of view. Just because the majority of people agree with you does not mean this person is wrong. The opinions of the Republican, sorority sister, or athlete are just as important as yours, and if you want them to consider your point of view you have to consider theirs.

Instead of ignoring opinions that challenge your way of thinking, you should appreciate them. By listening to people who disagree with us we force ourselves to reconsider where our opinions come from. As intelligent, informed students we should be up to the challenge of defending our points of view. Only someone who disagrees with you will ask you to do this, and this is one of the most important things we can gain from one another.

So spark a new conversation in Commons. Challenge your professor or class when they all agree on a point of view. Write a letter to The Spectator when you disagree about something we have done. Let your voice be heard, because you'll never know what you can learn from others and what they can learn from you.

by Kate Tummarello '11
Insights and Ideas Editor

THE SPECTATOR

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INSIGHTS & IDEAS

Criticizing Policies Is Not Criticizing Gender

by Amy Tannenbaum '10
Insights and Ideas Contributor

Last week, John McCain's campaign managers called out *Saturday Night Live*, saying Tina Fey's portrayal of Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin was sexist.

I'll grant them that in this instance, the portrayal of Palin bordered on sexist – Tina Fey's constant posing was more about lampooning Palin's sexuality than her policies.

But Fox News's Dick Morris thinks that tough questions about Palin's policies and experience shows (I quote) "deep" sexism.

I'd like to get something straight: attacking Palin's positions is NOT sexist, NOT anti-feminist, and certainly not something anyone should be derided for doing. Questioning a vice presidential candidate's policies and experiences, particularly since she has a good chance of becoming President, is not sexism. It's just being a responsible citizen.

Think of it this way: if Sarah Palin were a man, would you support and/or attack that male candidate on the basis of his policy? If the answer is yes, then I would say that doing the same for Palin is in fact anti-sexist: she's receiving exactly the same treatment as a male candidate would. A friend pointed out to me that accepting Palin's political positions on the basis that she is a woman would actually be sexist. To think that Palin could not handle criticism because she is a woman suggests that men and women should be held to different standards.

But in case anyone is still confused, let's look at some actual examples of sexism from this election:

-Sarah Palin as a VPILF: why is it that women can't be in the public eye without being turned into sex objects?

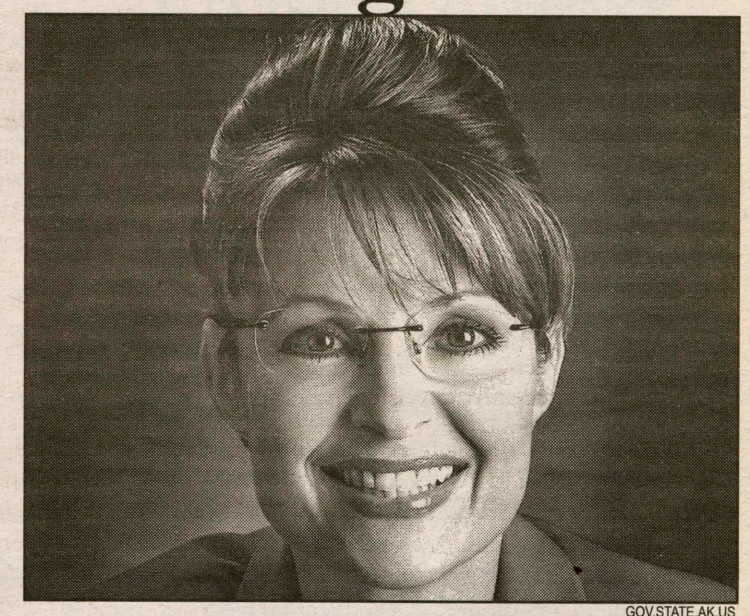
-While we're on the topic of Palin: she doesn't think women should have sovereignty over their own bodies. In case that's not enough: when she was mayor of Wasilla, Palin charged women who had just been raped up to $1200 for their rape kits (collections of forensic evidence). Considering that rape is overwhelmingly a crime against women, I'd call this one not just sexist, but also misogynistic - and classist.

-At the intersection of sexism and racism are Fox News pundits on Michelle Obama: a headline called her Barack's "baby mama," and Bill O'Reilly (yes, the very man who accuses the 'liberal' media of unfairly attacking Palin) continually refers to her as an "angry woman," a racially coded remark. See also the now-infamous cover of the New Yorker.

-Here's some sexism from McCain himself: While on the campaign trail in 1992, McCain called his wife Cindy a c**t, in public, in front of reporters. If that's how he treats her in public, I can only imagine how he treats her in the privacy of their home.

-Also sexist: assuming that women will vote for a woman regardless of her policies. Clearly this was not true for Hillary Clinton: how many conservative women – or even liberal women, for that matter - wanted to vote for her? It's not any different for Sarah Palin. Let's not forget about all of the conservative women with actual national experience that McCain could have chosen. Sexism: thinking that one woman can automatically substitute for another just because they're both women.

-The media continually refers to Hillary Clinton as the first female candidate for President. While I won't deny her accomplishments and the importance of her campaign, let's not forget all of the women who came before (and at the same time as!) her: Cynthia McKinney, Victoria Chaflin Woodhull, Belva Ann Lockwood, Margaret Chase Smith, Charlene Mitchell, Shirley Chisholm, Patsy Takamoto Mink, Bella Savitzky Abzug, Linda Osteen Jenhess, Leanora Fulani, Gloria LaRiva, Millie Howard, Elizabeth Dole, Carol Mosely Braun, Mildred Williams Glover and over 40 others have also campaigned to become President.



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You can question Palin's policies without being sexist.

- I can't very well bring up Hillary Clinton without mentioning the barrage of sexism she faced on the campaign trail: from constant criticism of her wardrobe (what happened to thinking about her policies?) to commentary on the tone of her voice, to calling her a c**t (a popular word in politics these days, it seems), to the attacks on everything from her tears to her lack of emotion: basically, everything but her policies.

This election season has been full of sexism, no doubt, but let's not say it's sexist to actually care about your Vice-Presidential candidate's stance and experience. That, Dick Morris, is just what we call being politically engaged.

The Need To Leave The Bubble

by Allison Eck '12
Insights and Ideas Writer

There is a reason the phrase "on the hill" is uttered so often. The conspicuous truth is that we live on a very steep hill. Unfortunately, this means that though the walk down the hill and into town is nice, the shops in Clinton and our rapport with the beautiful view on the way down aren't really worth it once you start that long trek back up the hill. Likewise, going to the Sangertown Mall or New Hartford is especially difficult for freshmen, who aren't allowed to have cars.

So why do we care so much in the first place? Students who don't have cars may feel the isolation begin to seep in while on the hill.

"I feel like after you've been here a while it starts to close in on you and eventually you need a change of scenery," commented Tiffany Schreck '12. "But I don't feel so isolated because my friends are here."

Curiosity sometimes plays a role, as Kate Moore '12 noted. "We just got here, and we want to explore everything around us. And even though Hamilton is great, after a while it gets boring."

Students acknowledged that on occasion, living in a bubble isn't so bad.

"After watching Law and Order and 48 Hours Mystery at one o'clock in the morning, I like the sense of being isolated on a hill in the middle of nowhere, away from all the crazies!" Kate joked. "Unless all the crazies are in Clinton…"

Other students have discovered that there are even smaller bubbles within our campus.

"I feel isolated in Wertimer," said Daniel Feinberg '12. "But when I go to the more central part of campus, I feel like a part of a community."

The culture shock is particularly intense for those coming from big cities like New York City. Sara Leshen '12 is from Manhattan and said that "I get a little overwhelmed with how few people there are. My dad called me and said that I probably see less people here in a week than he does in an hour!" Clinton is not exactly a robust, chaotic city but nonetheless, Sara feels the urge to go into town at least to see some unfamiliar faces.

"I think I would go a lot more if I had a car. It's kind of a deterrent because I'd have to walk or take the Jitney. But I do love going to the natural food store, so it's worth it."

What is it about Clinton and the surrounding shopping centers that's so attractive to Hamilton students? Is it really places like Tom's Natural Foods? Some students like the shopping, the food, or just getting out into the real world. Others like the trips to Colgate or the off-campus parties.

"I really like that they transport you to the off-campus parties," said Sara. "I'm happy with the social life here."

Kristen Morgan-Davie '12, who went to high school in Clinton, elaborated on some of the commodities in Clinton that she grew up with. "Going into town isn't very climactic for me because I've been there so much. But College Street Café is amazing…better than Mojo's. There are also really good concerts at the KAC [Kirkland Art Center]. It ranges from folk to jazz to blues…I've even heard rock bands perform." Kirsten also recommended Nola's Restaurant and The Dessert Booth.

While Kristen can appreciate all that Clinton has to offer, she added a disclaimer: "Generally, there really isn't much in Clinton that doesn't happen here."

Even students who aren't as familiar with the area agree.

"There are more than enough events on campus, and sometimes on weekends there are so many events that I just can't get to all of them," said Daniel.

There is a degree of ambivalence, however. While there are so many things going on, the chances that they will apply to you may be slim.

"It really depends on what you're interested in," said Tiffany.

"Hamilton has plenty of events; it's just that sometimes I prefer going into town," said Jamie Kamihachi '12.

Though most freshmen find solace in the care that goes into the events that Hamilton plans, a venture into the greater world has the potential to be very refreshing. To force freshmen to acclimate themselves to the college experience, Hamilton limits possession of cars to upperclassmen – and this is why we have the much-beloved Jitney!

"I don't really care [I can't have a car]," Kate said. "As long as I don't die in a tragic Jitney accident!"

All-Campus Spam

by Lauren Magaziner '12
Insights and Ideas Writer

You've got mail.

You sit down at your computer and open up to my.hamilton.edu. You've just checked your computer an hour ago, but you decide to sit down and check it again. Surprise—you have 25 new messages. And in another hour, you'll probably have 25 more messages.

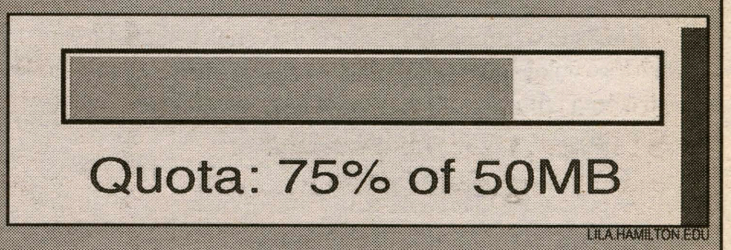
If printed, the sheer amount of all-campus e-mail is enough to layer the bottom of the ocean. When I have to check my e-mail literally every hour, I know that it is just too much. Not that getting all-campus e-mail is bad; I like to hear about the different events that are going on. The problem arises when I receive five e-mails from Knit Happens, four from People Who Like to do Fun Things, five from Student Assembly Minutes, and one a day from the Buff and Blue Café.

Even worse than the influx of all campus mail are people who hit "Reply All" when responding to messages. I don't want to waste the limited space in my inbox with messages that I shouldn't even be seeing. First-Year Colin Chapin is one of many students who hates "Reply All" e-mails:

"It really annoys me," Chapin said, laughing.

To me, it is madness that I have only been a part of Hamilton College a month, and my inbox is already 12 percent full, even after I flushed my e-mail account of all "Reply All" e-mails and clubs that I'm not interested in. And every time I check my e-mail, used storage grows about 5%.

Some students don't even read the all-campus mail. "I don't even read them…unless they have a catchy title," Sophomore Caty Taborda said.



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It's not too difficult to go over your memory quota.

"I don't really [like getting that much mail]" said Eliana Miranda '10. Nevertheless, she admits to reading most of the messages she receives.

The solution to this inbox influx is to limit the number of e-mails a club sends. Unless I am on a club's listserv, I don't need to hear about every time there is going to be a meeting. I am not opposed to all-campus mail; I'm only opposed to the amount of messages I receive. It is frustrating to spend ten minutes every hour cleaning out my inbox when I could be spending the time doing something a bit more productive.

Face Off: Is Downloading Music Ethical?

No

by Sam Gomez '10
Insights and Ideas Writer

The problem with illegal file sharing is that it harms the consumers and producers of digital media. As the Writer's Guild of America strike demonstrated last year, when artists believe that they are being cheated, everyone suffers. The dissemination of music causes artists and record companies to lose an incentive to produce their material, and thus the price of legitimate digital media rises. Five or ten years ago, consumers would have scoffed at the idea of paying $1.99 per popular song or anywhere from $15 to $25 for a new album. In today's market, these prices are common.

Because hard copies of digital media can be cracked, copied, and distributed over the Internet with ease, media producers now often offer their product solely over the Internet in a file format that comes with numerous layers of encryption and copyright protection. These practices continue to grow as a direct result of illegal file sharing. In the long run, the real losers are the consumers, who will soon no longer have the *ability* to save and back up multiple copies of their favorite digital media because of the ever-more-prohibitive copyright protection being instituted by major digital media producers.

The growth of peer-to-peer networks illustrates another alarming trend. Because the media is stored on individual's machines it is almost impossible for law enforcement or others to regulate the spread of what should be private property. This has resulted in many major digital media distributors fighting back in the only way they can. By partially downloading and then seeding copies of their respective property, some companies have broken the law in an attempt to stem the torrent (pun intended) of digital information. These companies often attach malicious viruses to their files and thus destroy users' computers to send a stern warning to file sharing communities.

So where does this battle between the digital media distributor and file sharing guru end? Well, there are alternatives that you, the responsible user who wishes to access free content over the Internet can take advantage of. There are websites like Rhapsody, Napster and Zune where, for a modest monthly fee, you can have access to a library of millions of songs to enjoy on your computer or portable media device. Last but not least, there is the possibility of legal music sharing. If a consumer manages to obtain a hard copy of digital media (i.e. a music CD or movie DVD) there are programs to "rip" the files to their computer or external hard drive. Instead of disseminating these files on the Internet, however, it is completely legal and safe to share these hard copies with your friends. Record companies never sued some poor individual because he made a mixtape.

Legal sharing follows the same idea. Companies like Apple, with its popular iTunes software, build in mechanisms for legal file sharing among individuals connected on a local area network. Admittedly These solutions are not a substitute for the infinite freedom of programs like BitTorrent, but they are a start. They can begin to provide responsible users the ability to share their digital media with a clear conscience and a healthy machine.

Yes

by Jessie Brown '12
Insights and Ideas Writer

I come from a family that equates music with air: you cannot live without it, do not even try. That kind of atmosphere made me an avid support of musicians, particularly lesser known ones. It wasn't uncommon, back home, to burn my favorite CDs or send a track or two to friends to get them into some band I thought was phenomenal. I'd never condone stealing CDs, but I never saw a problem with burning a copy of a CD I bought either.

Hamilton does. The rules in place have changed my music sharing practices to calling people back home and hoping they hear the background music. According to the Hamilton website, a network log exists, and while it's not monitored regularly, if necessary they do check – meaning that song you sent to your friend across the country can be tied to you specifically. If you are caught, you can expect legal action. The RIAA is cracking down on college students in particular, and three Hamilton students have already been sued.

The RIAA, or the Recording Industry Association of America, is a group that defends the "creative and financial vitality" of its members, according to their website, www.riaa.com. They claim that over half of university students illegally download media on a regular basis, and are thus the biggest threat to said vitality.

Copying CDs and DVDs you've purchased for what they define as "personal use" isn't their objection, they say; it's not until those copies are redistributed that copyright infringement occurs.

In the past, the RIAA has claimed that CDs should cost more than they do now, basing their argument on faulty mathematics and unsound reasoning.

However, the cost of electronics decreases over time, as pointed out by Techdirt (www.techdirt.com) and Ben Woods, just to name a few.

Though they have since removed the statement, statistics on their site still claim illegal downloading has inflicted an incredible amount of damages. Can we trust this information? I'd check their math.

Should we stop sharing files? The members of the RIAA obviously think so, but not all consumers agree.

"I don't think it's bad as long as the music industry doesn't ultimately crash for it," says Emily Moulton, '12.

Since artists earn the majority of their income from concerts and merchandise and little from CD sales, file sharing doesn't actually infringe on either their creative or financial wellbeing, and can actually benefit unsigned artists.

Music that would otherwise go unheard receives the deserved promotion due to the Internet. In addition to pay service peer to peer networks, this includes unregulated file sharing.

Thumbs up

Zombies vs. Humans: When playing hours and hours of Halo just doesn't fulfill your nerd quota.

Having monkey bars surgically implanted on our testicles so that all of you whiny organizations can hang off our nuts more easily.

Donating blood: Not only do you get free cookies, but it's like a free STD test, which is probably a good thing after last weekend.

Muslim Students Association Fast-a-Thon: Sponsored by the sisters of Alpha Theta Chi.

Clay Aiken is gay? It looks like I'm going have to hide those posters before Family Weekend.

Thumbs down

Passing out in the library: How am I supposed to study when I'm breathing heavily as I watch you sleep?

Ice cream flavors in Commons: If four or more flavors appear day-glo orange or pink, you're obviously doing something wrong.

Only having beige Trojans at the Health Center: My girlfriend misses picking what color Mr. Winky will be.

People Who Like To Do Fun Things Club: If I wanted to have fun without alcohol I would take a nap.

Gamma Xi's Lightside vs. Darkside Party: Ironically showing that both sides unite in not having anything better to do.

Golden Bikes return, along with my BUI record.

Who Cares?

I find it ironic that the "Road to Career Success" is the same road I drunkenly stumble down on my way to pile hash browns down my gullet at 3 AM.

***The Daily Bull*: While my mother always advised me of the dangers of huffing glue, she never told me about its creative possibilities.**

Prayer day: Still praying it's not mine.

Silent Disco: Couldn't see you, couldn't hear you. Let's keep it that way.

Association of Women in Economics & Government: The partners at Goldman Sachs enjoyed your pie, but not your application.

The Farm Party: No thanks, I already didn't go to this party last week when it was called the Barn Party.

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09, Anthony DelConte '10, Matt Fellows '09 & Cam Gaylord '09

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the picture printed alongside last week's article on Hamilton's A Capella groups.

I found the picture to be in poor taste and inappropriate for our school newspaper. While the article was informative and proved to be a great summary of the groups, the picture detracted from the quality of the piece. The objective of the article was to take a closer look at the competitiveness and current funding situation of the groups.

The flyer pictured does not represent either of the writer's main ideas and should not have been printed. The Spectator is also a direct representation of our student body and is distributed not only on the Hill but throughout the community.

I understand that the picture was meant to be amusing and highlight the Buffers unique sense of humor. I always laugh when I see Buffers' posters along Martin's Way and their concerts are priceless.

As much as we all appreciate Buffer humor, it is not appropriate for the paper. In the future, I hope the editors of the Spectator will think twice about printing similar pictures.

Sincerely,
Becky Cairns '11

To the Editor:

Regarding the IMF blunder: I think it is a shame if this means that the entire student body will be deprived of several concerts that they would have otherwise enjoyed.

As a parent, I like knowing that there are activities to lighten up the gloom of those "lake effect" winters and the isolation that is often felt on the hill. And we all know how much the students welcome and enjoy the May Day festivities, when they can officially say good-bye to the (usually) brutal winter.

I am hoping the administration will find a way to discipline IMF without simultaneously depriving the rest of the student body.

-Morna Crites-Moore

Everyone has an opinion.

Share yours.

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specii@hamilton.edu
to write for
Insights and Ideas.

Ask Mister Morals

A look at cheating in the bedroom and in the classroom.

"I am pretty sure that my roommate is cheating on her boyfriend. While I don't have proof to be sure, I bet I could catch her in the act if I really wanted to. She and her boyfriend have been dating for a year, and I'm good friends with both of them. I feel bad for him, but she's like my best friend and I live with her. So where should my loyalty lie? Should I tell him about my suspicions or should I confront her directly? I guess I could just ignore it and do nothing, but then I'll still feel guilty. He thinks that everything is going great and she acts like she's as faithful as can be. Any ideas?"

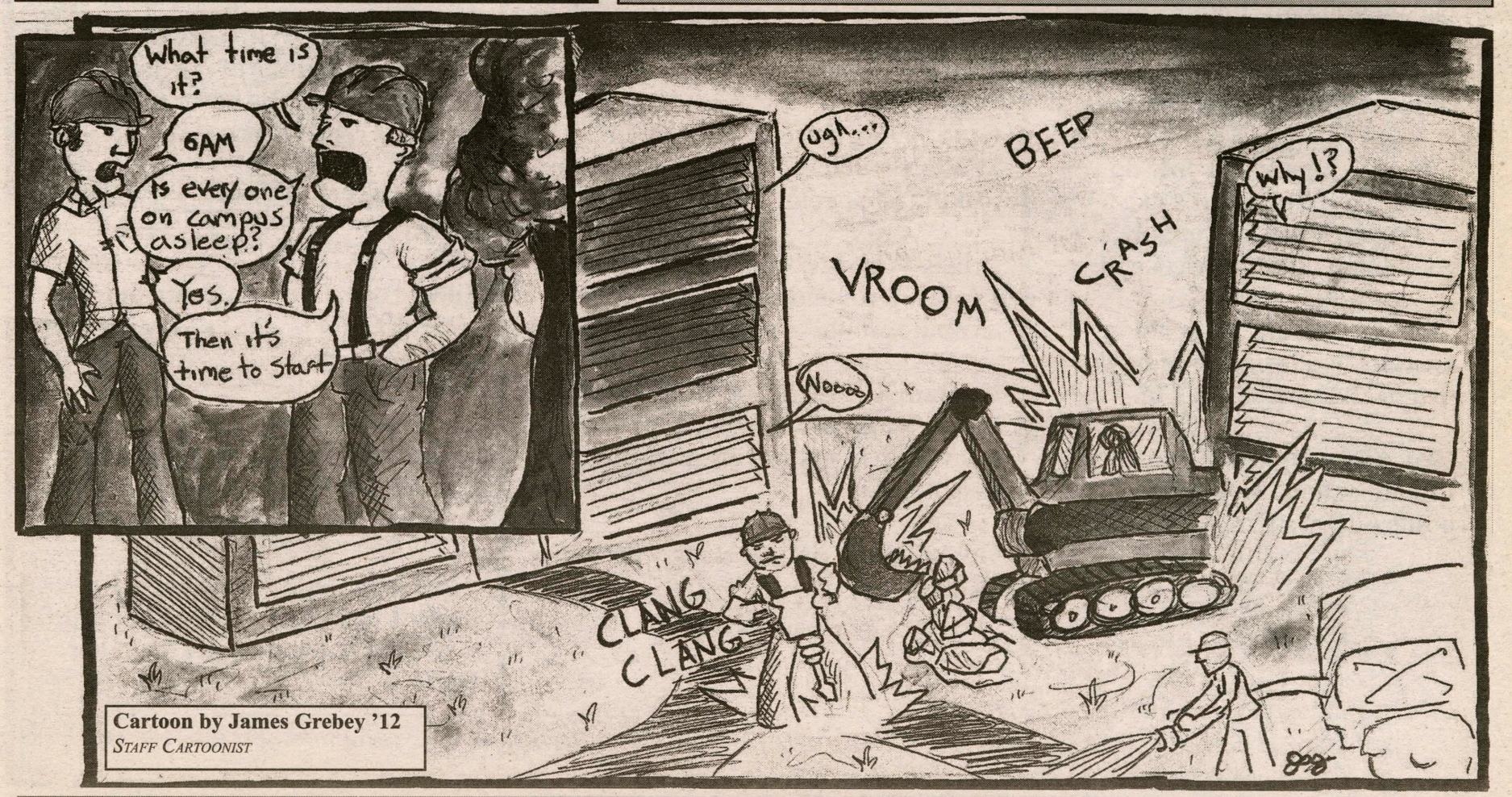
A rock and a hard place. A room that's closing in on itself. Being thrown into the water with weights tied onto your feet. Choose your metaphor, and the fact remains that you are in a situation with no easy fix. Since you have loyalties to both your roommate and her boyfriend you cannot support either one and avoid enmeshing yourself into their conflict. Ultimately, you will have to pick a side, and will have a hard time remaining friends with both of them after that. Additionally, your involvement will add another layer of complexity to the conflict, making it more difficult to resolve. Prolonging the matter is not in the best interest of anybody.

While it is unfortunate that you have to witness this infidelity, it is an issue that your roommate and her boyfriend will eventually resolve for themselves. The only thing that remains is to remain indifferent to the situation. While you might "feel guilty" about your passive acceptance of the situation, try to remember that your participation would be a disservice to yourself and to both of your friends.

While studying for a history test, I saw a flier in my textbook advertising a student study guide on the publishing company's website. I logged onto the site and took the practice test there. When I sat down to take the real test the next day, I realized that the questions were identical to the ones on the practice test. I knew all of the answers! Should I tell the instructor about the online study guide?

While utilizing online study guides is an honest way of studying, you are obligated to let your teacher know that the questions he selected for a graded test are readily available (and advertised) to students. Remember that the Internet is a relatively new resource in the classroom. It is possible that your instructor did not consider that motivated students might access the same information he thought was exclusively available to teachers. Taking advantage of his incorrect assumption is unethical; you should let him know, after class and once you have aced the test, about your discovery.

Mister Morals is a column devoted to helping resolve the ethical dilemmas of Hamilton students. E-mail questions and comments to Adam Vorchheimer at avorchhe@hamilton.edu. All submissions will remain strictly confidential.



Cartoon by James Grebey '12
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The Wall Street Crisis Pops Hamilton's Bubble

By Lily Gillespie '12
FEATURES WRITER

I know from personal experience that it can be very difficult to stay abreast of current events and news up in our bubble on The Hill, which is why it is so important to share the recent crisis on Wall Street, which will have resounding effects for many years. For those who are unfamiliar, Sunday September 14 and Monday September 15 marked two of the worst days on Wall Street in decades. Two of the largest American investment banking firms, Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers, were forced to sell out and file for bankruptcy, respectively. After they were crippled by poor investment decisions in high- risk real estate, both companies scrambled to rescue themselves throughout the previous week and that weekend, but neither was successful. On Sunday September 14th, Merril Lynch was forced to sell out to Bank of America for $50 billion, half of its net worth the year before, and Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy on Monday morning. This has become a huge issue for the presidential candidates, as both scramble to propose plans that would stabilize the economy, and demonstrate their prowess at handling emergency situations.

Those at Hamilton who might see the most rapid and dramatic ramifications of this recent economic downturn are the seniors who will be looking for, or have already acquired a job, particularly those who are pursuing a career on Wall Street. I discussed this issue with Kino Ruth, Career Center Director, who shared a message of preparedness and hope. Ruth was clear in the fact that things are very tough for seniors looking at jobs in the investment banking world and on Wall Street because these companies simply are not hiring the way they normally would, as he put it: "This is a year about survival." A combination of fear and a strong desire to hold on to their financial resources has made these major firms very reticent to bring in new people. However, Ruth encourages seniors to broaden their horizons and look beyond the brand-name firms and New York City because there are still jobs in the immense finance world and in the job-market in general. Ruth also encouraged seniors to "be realistic" in their expectations and to "utilize breaks." It is a scary time for anyone looking for a job, but with an open mind and a willingness to search, there are possibilities for everyone.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREN MOON '10

Recently, Merrill Lynch and Lehman Brothers were forced to sell out and file for bankruptcy, respectively.

The Hamilton administration is curious as to what this development will mean for applicants in this and in future years. Following fall 2007, which marked the largest number of college applicants in U.S. history, and a subsequent strain on financial aid resources, the ability to fund college tuition is of great concern to both admissions offices and students. This economic crisis marks only one of many stumbling blocks for college students looking to pay for college. A recent financial aid crisis in Massachusetts, for example, prohibited the state from giving students promised loans. However, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Monica Inzer is confident that Hamilton will be able to meet the needs of future students: "At Hamilton, we're fortunate enough to have a $23 million financial aid budget and we remain committed to making Hamilton affordable for those who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend our college." For the moment at least, Hamilton is able to continue to support its students' financial needs.

Something that may be less in the thoughts of Hamilton students, but should certainly be taken into consideration is how the economic situation will affect alumni giving.

The idea at the heart of all this is not to lose hope because the economy has had tough times before and the reality is that this will turn around, maybe not tomorrow, but within a year or two. The best we can do as members of the Hamilton community is to keep ourselves aware of and engaged in the economy of which we are all a part.

Worth Leaving the Hill For: Captain Trips

By Martin Connor '09
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

By Dan Allen '09
FEATURES WRITER

Leisurely strolling the streets of downtown Clinton introduces the connoisseur to a feast of the senses: dark and rich coffee, mouth watering Italian cuisine, and a vast selection of fine taverns and eclectic eateries. One could say that hidden amongst this historic business district is a treasure trove of colorful opportunities.

Suddenly you detect a distinct odor in the air, undeniable and true; leading you towards the hole-in-the-wall called "Captain Trips."

As you enter a soft spoken, bearded man cloaked in a wreath of incense approaches and softly asks how he can be of service. Then it hits you: It's him. The Captain. And he wants you on board.

He goes by a variety of nicknames: "Trips," "Mr. Nice Guy," "that dude." The list goes on. Though elusive about his true name, his stories flowed as easily as wine at a Roman banquet.

The name, Captain Trips, was the brain child of a fellow co-worker during the captain's time as a nocturnal sentry at a grocery store in California; just one stop on his long list of destinations and endeavors.

Born and raised in scenic Clinton, the Captain soon found himself tiring of the gentle rolling of rural life and set his sights west in search of adventure. Ending up in California, the young lad quickly became a disciple of the Grateful Dead and vowed to follow the band on their pilgrimage. As the wave began to loose momentum, however, the captain knew it was time to abandon ship.

In 1989 "Captain Trips" opened to the public. A humble beginning, the newborn shop was primarily a library of mainstream as well as rare Grateful Dead tapes and recordings. The mission: to expose the rural community to cultures from all over the United States. As interest rose, the young entrepreneur looked hopefully to the future.

Tapping a previously undiscovered market, Captain Trips soon expanded both its floor space and stock to such sectors as: alternative clothing, incenses, and tobacco products and accessories. Things looked promising for the captain.

Then a dark shadow fell over the town as new contenders moved into the region, competing with local business: Wal-Mart, shopping malls, the Internet. Soon Trip's clientele began to taper. The new mega stores offered cheap alternatives to the authentic, local business experience and products. Undercut and pushed out of the market, Captain Trips was forced to downsize.

Nonetheless, the captain somehow remains positive in the face of adversity. His faith in the intrinsic potential and value of small business remains steadfast: personality, human interaction, and a symbiotic relationship with the community can always stand the test of time.

These days, Captain Trips stands as a testament to the enduring capabilities of the small American business and counter cultures, despite decades of efforts by large conglomerations to eliminate the little guy. Tucked away into a corner, Captain Trips is here to stay. But he needs your help to ensure his ability to cater to the needs of the Hamilton community for future classes.

Captain Trips is a man whose spirit endures the test of time; whose charisma is an inspiration to all who meet him; and lives his life by a credo that resonates with every generation: "Drive fast and stay to the right."

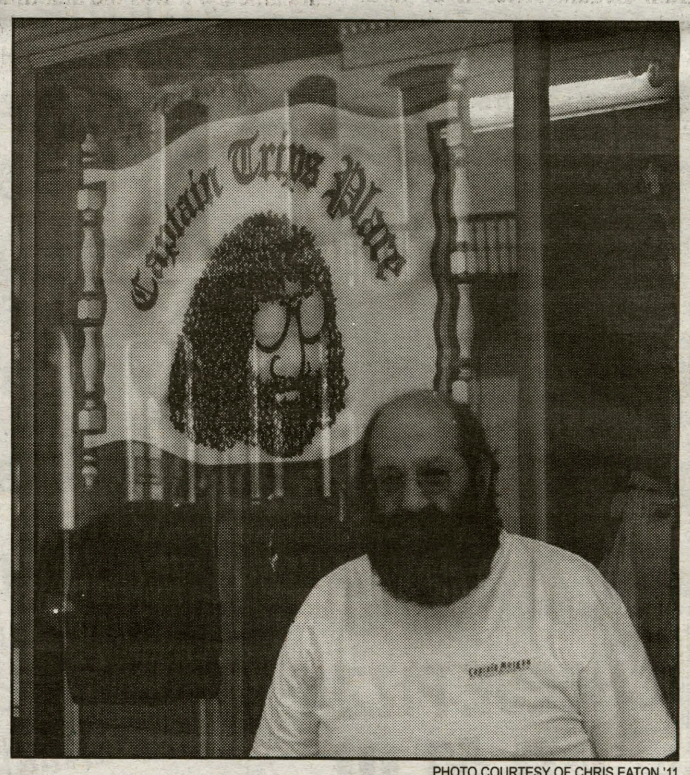


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS EATON '11

"Then it hits you: It's him. The Captain. And he wants you on board."

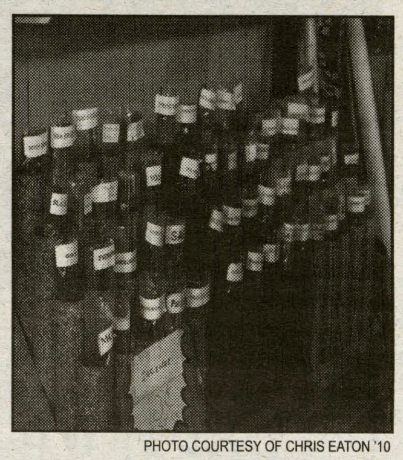


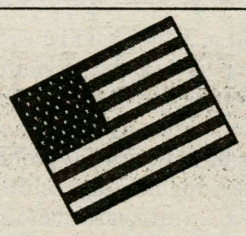
PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS EATON '10

Bring This Coupon For

10 % OFF

at Captain Trips

Good Through Monday, September 29



FROM WHERE I SIT

HAMILTON'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

By Zijun Zhang '12
FEATURES WRITER

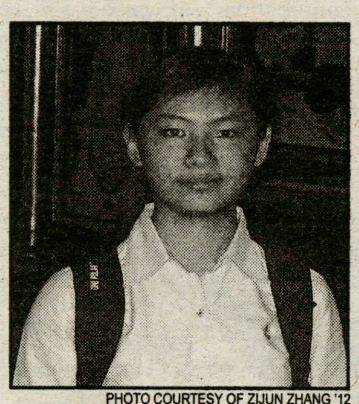


PHOTO COURTESY OF ZIJUN ZHANG '12

Zijun Zhang '12 is an international student from China.

I come from China: the country with the largest population in the world, and I am now studying in the US: the most developed country on earth. Both nations are so different from the outside and yet so similar from the inside. Although I have only been in the US for one month, it is not so difficult for me to taste its culture through my college life here at Hamilton.

I arrived on campus the day before the pre-orientation program began. After a 20-hour flight and eight hours waiting at the airport, I was tired out and the only thing I wanted to do was have a good sleep. It was still the afternoon, and the semester had not begun yet, so there were not too many students on campus. I should have at least been able to take a nap. However, all of sudden crazy screams reached my room on the dark side. I was shocked when I first heard them. If this had happened on a campus in China, my first reaction would have been to call the police. But having heard a little bit about American people, I thought that there might have been some kind of event going on. My sleepiness was swept away by my curiosity. So, I got up to check it out. As I thought, about ten people were standing on the sides of College Hill Road, wearing the AA/USE T-shirts, and yelling at every car passing by. These people had props like rubber snake, large paper-boat with quant, pirate's hats, and signs. They seemed so excited and shouted so loudly that they were cheering themselves hoarse. They were doing their best to welcome the pre-orientation members and their families.

I was inspired by them, and tried to join them when another car came by. It was the first time I was doing such a crazy thing! In my country, we would never welcome anyone in such a "crazy" way. People tend to be reserved and do not express their emotion very strongly. We are told to be moderate as we grow up. Yelling in a hoarse voice is one of the discourtesies prohibited by our parents. However, I found that although they may have different ways to express their passions, people in both the US and China are zealous and friendly. It felt good to show my passion in the American way.

When the semester began, parties began too. I could only enter the ones without alcohol because I'm still under 21. For this reason, the parties were more like a chatting or communicating type of meeting for people who already knew each other or for those looking for friends with the same interests. But sometimes, parties would go crazy like dancing parties. There was one of the parties held in my dorm, which I didn't attend for some reason, but all my friends who joined it enjoyed the night. They shouted, danced and kept all the homework away from their brains, and just swung their bodies with loud and strong music.

In China, people do "party," but usually they would just go to KTVs or restaurants. As for students, they would not go to dancing parties, or if they did, it probably would be some social dance. However, we do not have the restriction of the age for drinking, so usually, alcohol is indispensable for Chinese parties. I could hardly say if it is good to allow underage people to drink without any limitation. Fortunately, although there is no law that prohibits drinking alcohol in China, parents will prevent their children from drinking too much. So it is uncommon to see young people who are drunk. Both countries have different ways to reach the same target.

As time goes on, more new things will be waiting for me. So far, it seems that everything is going quite well. I love the food on the Hill so far, especially the diner. I enjoy the living environment in my dorm with my roommate and other students, even with the kids in childcare center. I like to pass Martin's Way everyday from KJ to the Science Center. I swing golf clubs and watch sports competitions against other colleges. I sit in Wellin Hall for concerts.

Four years at Hamilton will not only be a time for absorbing knowledge, but it will also be a trip to a new culture I have never experienced before. Although there is a huge difference between the two countries, I have already smelt the aromatic scent here as in my motherland.

"It was the first time I was doing such a crazy thing! In China, people tend to be reserved and do not express their emotion very strongly."

"From Where I Sit" is the ESOL column that presents the nonnative English Speaker's point of view on his or her American experience. If you have a "From Where I Sit" that you would like to share, email adragan.

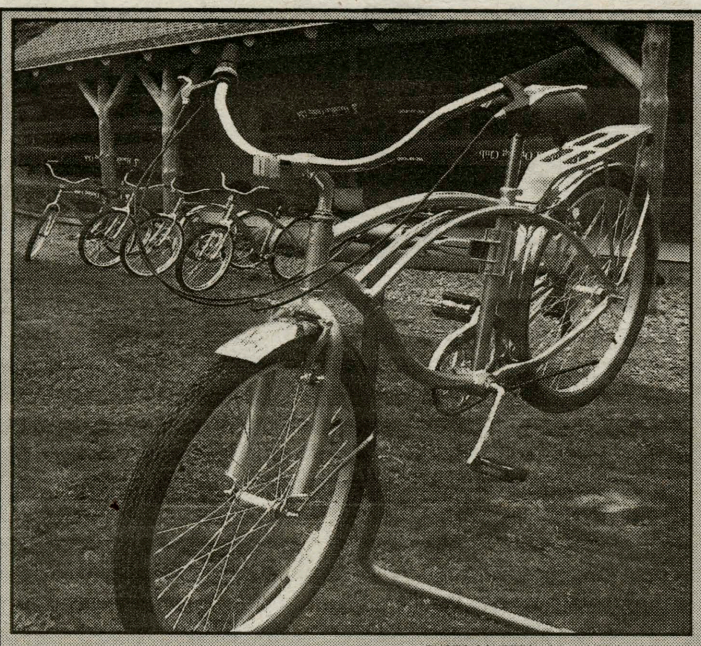


PHOTO COURTESY OF ANOOP PANDEY '10

The Gilded Bikes Are Back!

We brought to this campus bikes golden
And like how it's sweetly unfoldin'.
You ride here and there
you show love and care
So your spirit I gladly embolden.

-Dinglebutte

The Gildbnoxiouslygold Gilded Bicycle Guild introduces its new fleet of utterly auriferous bi-peds.

THE GOLDEN RULES
-or-
seven points on how to avoid aristotle's two-wheeled tragedy of the commons

ONE. The cycles are Hamilton College property. Any destruction of the bikes will be punished with the 6-10 points assigned to vandalism. Bummer. Don't do it.

TWO. The blonde beauties are valiant, but old. Please don't try to catch sick air off the science center steps, ride them down the hill into town, or toss them on the ground. Stick to the paths. Care for them. Put down the kickstand, or if it doesn't have one please lean it against something.

THREE. Do NOT take them off campus. For one thing they won't make it down the hill. You will almost certainly die if you try. Also, if you live at 3, or Bundy, or somewhere else far away, please try not to ride one home every night and just hoard the entire fleet at your step. Try to bring them back up the hill for others to use.

FOUR. Be careful when riding them. You are sharing paths with those not graced by flaxen steel between their legs. The un-mounted pedestrians are less cool than you, but don't take out your professor on the way to class. You'll notice they don't come with helmets, so ride like your grandmother would.

FIVE. If its broke, don't ride it. If something seems flagrantly wrong with the bike, like a flat tire, a squirrel caught in the spokes, really crooked handlebars, just wheel it somewhere conspicuous, turn it upside-down, and we will come around and get it. (So that also means don't ride upside-down bikes! though that would be impressive.) If you are feeling very much like a good Samaritan, the bike shop is behind the Glen House, and you can roll the busted bike there. If you happen to spot a wounded Dorado in a ditch somewhere, please email me.

SIX. Not all ochroid bikes are yours. Just the very golden ones with Hamilton College written on them. Discriminate the mellower yellow private rides from genuine aureate velocipedes.

SEVEN. Finally, The Gilded Bi-cycles are not perfect, but they certainly have personalities. So try to enjoy the rhythm of the rattling fender and the soprano of the squeaky chain. Many of the bikes are older than we are, and probably have a great deal to say. If you listen closely, maybe they will impart some knowledge. Also, riding a bike is pretty easy. And its really a wonderful thing.

A Closer Look: Religion

A Week of Faith On the Hill

By Jessie Brown '12
Features Writer

By Lauren Moon '10
Features Editor

Islam

Ramadan, a month-long holiday in the Islamic faith, has been going on for over twenty days now and concludes on September 30. For about 30 days (depending on the cycle of the moon), Muslims around the world fast, abstaining not only from food and water, but also from other "impure" activities such as "bad thoughts and actions, cursing, things people normally do," says Muslim Student Association President Del Abdelwahab, '10. In exchange, they try to think of God and others. "It's hard to just think about drinking when you're hungry," he continues. The fast promotes the values of mercy and generosity, and helps understand the hunger felt by less fortunate people in hopes that the generosity continues.

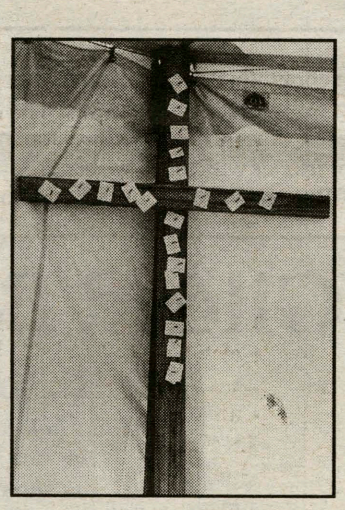
PHOTOS BY CHRIS EATON '11

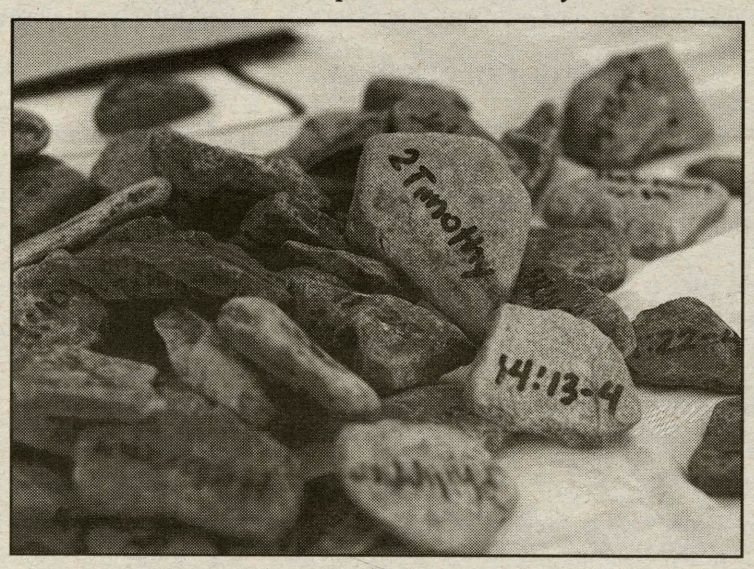
The Muslim Student Association, or MSA, formulated the idea of the Fast-A-Thon to give students of other faiths the idea of fasting for the betterment of others. True to the spirit of giving, Bon Appétit donated the food that participating students would have otherwise consumed to Our Neighbors, a Utica charity. After a day of fasting, students enjoyed a meal catered by the Phoenician.

It is a belief of Islam that the prophet Muhammad received the Qu'ran, the Muslim holy book from God, and so brought mercy to the world. The Qu'ran contains 30 chapters, and Muslims read a chapter each day of Ramadan as part of their nightly prayers, in addition to going to mosque more often than usual.

Judaism

Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of the Jewish New Year, is one of the most important holidays of Judaism. It is a day for celebrating the beginning of the year and a time for reflection on the past – how you have behaved, what you have done, and how you can improve, according to Anat Guez, Jewish Chaplain and Lecturer in Hebrew. It is a time to reflect on your responsibilities to yourself, to your community, and the world around you. Says Guez, "On Rosh Hashanah, God opens a book and everyone goes in the book. You have ten days, until Yom Kippur, to reflect, and after Yom Kippur, God judges."





These ten days are not just a time of judgment; they are a time of repentance. The holiday is full of symbolism, including the symbolic act that involves going to any body of flowing water, or what Professor Guez calls "live water." Some people bring bread to toss away, as a symbol of casting away their sins, while others meditate on their bad actions beside the water. The process is a means of dispelling negativity so the year can begin anew. Other symbols involve food. Typical foods include apples dipped in honey, as a sign of a sweet year, and pomegranates, which are full of seeds and represent abundance and wealth. Some even eat fish heads, to symbolize getting ahead rather than falling behind.

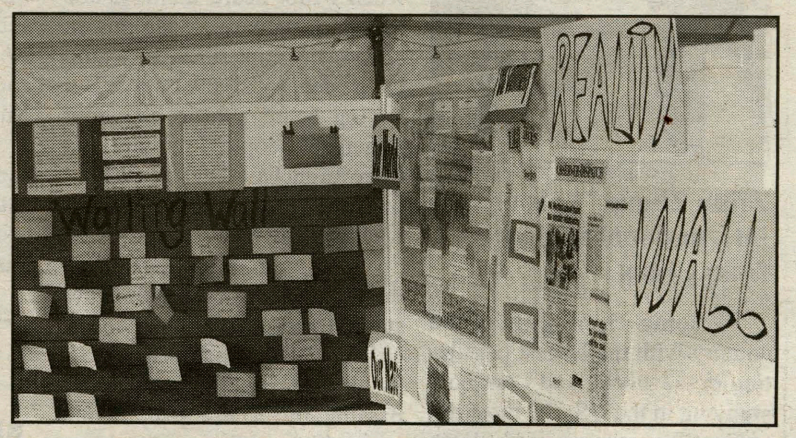
According to the Jewish calendar, Monday is the first day of the first month, called Tishri. The holiday lasts from Monday to Wednesday, and, like all Jewish holidays it begins and ends at sundown. The celebration starts with the playing of the shofar, an instrument made of a ram's horn, which emits a loud, resonating sound. This is believed to "open the skies to our voices and our prayers," explains Guez, so that God can hear the requests of forgiveness. God cannot forgive all, though; sins between people must be forgiven by people, so this holiday is the time to ask for that forgiveness.

Hamilton, recognizing the Jewish students and faculty's need to celebrate the holiday, will hold services Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in the Bristol Center. "A student rabbi from JTS in New York is coming to perform the services," says Guez. The celebration will also include a festive meal containing the holiday's symbolic foods and a blessing over them.

Christianity

Members of Christian Fellowship sponsored a tent on Monday with various stations devoted to contemplation and prayer. Each area of the tent was intended to project aspects of the Christian faith into a broader focus that people of any faith could relate to.

The Reality Wall depicted news clippings of injustices around the world including bombings, financial crises, and educational woes. The Forgiveness Cross offered visitors the opportunity to write down a sin and post it on the cross. The Wailing Wall was an opportunity for passersby to post issues in the world that they personally mourn for. The tent also included an art wall and writing implements for any type of expression someone may have been inclined to post. The tent also offered a more traditional prayer/meditation section equipped with mats for anyone who wanted to simply sit and reflect.



Elijah LaChance '10, a member of Christian Fellowship and active participant in the prayer tent, spent three hours on Monday in constant prayer and reflection. LaChance said he saw the prayer tent as an, "opportunity for people to see right out there how Christian Fellowship is addressing these worldly problems. It also helps them to consider how they could respond to these issues in their own life."

LaChance was quick to point out that the tent was not a place for only Christians, and those in reflection need not think Christian thoughts. "This isn't a check your Islamic roots at the door tent," Elijah remarked. "College in general is a place to consider your beliefs and your place in the world." The prayer tent was an outreach opportunity for all students to ponder, assess, and relate on their own level of spirituality. As Elijah says, "Come as you are, and leave as you leave… which may not be the same as you were."

Spectator Between the Sheets

By Annabelle Moore '12
Features Columnist

"Hey (blank), last night was (blank.), especially when you (blanked) my (blank). We should/should never do that again."

Your beer goggles giving you trouble again? Or do you feel like you've been drinking liquid courage? Whether you're bragging about your latest hook up or hoping all your friends were too drunk to notice, there is post-hook up etiquette for either situation. The above Mad Lib is for a morning-after text, but beware! This text should only be sent if you are positive that you know how you want to proceed. If you are sure this is the love of your life (or the best oral you've ever received), then feel free to fill in the blanks with positive feedback and take him/her to lovah-ville. If, however, you were repulsed by their dirty tongue and calloused hands, go crazy telling them how much you despise them. But if you don't know how you feel, or are ambivalent, hold off on the strong statements. Because the next time you see them it could get ugly. Here are some tips on how to carry your self in the following situations.

On the bridge:

Duck into Beinecke, keep your eyes on the ground or, my favorite, make an unnecessary call to your aunt. If you kind of liked them, some eye sex might help. If you now realized he has a peg leg, throw on a pair of those glasses with the attached mustache and pray to Dionysus that his eye patch sufficiently limits his field of vision.

In class:

Mixing business with pleasure? Poor planning on your part. But I won't punish you for this mistake. Take what some people call the "high road," but is actually the simplest solution; pretend it never happened.

At a party:

This completely depends on the status of the other person at the party. If he's looking hot, time to flirt. If she's behind the table and in charge of the keg, apologize for not texting her. But if he's sitting in a corner or she's dancing like it's 1976 and Heart is pumping, dance in the opposite direction, mix some liquor and beer, and make a drunken mistake with some other poor soul.

In his roommate's bed:

So you've realized the roommate is hotter, smarter and/or shares your leather fetish more than your original hook up. If you're caught in the act, run out of the room and hang your head in shame. If you're caught in the roommate's bed afterwards, immediately adopt an accent and text them the next day asking how they liked your Irish twin sister.

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Kevin Osborne '09

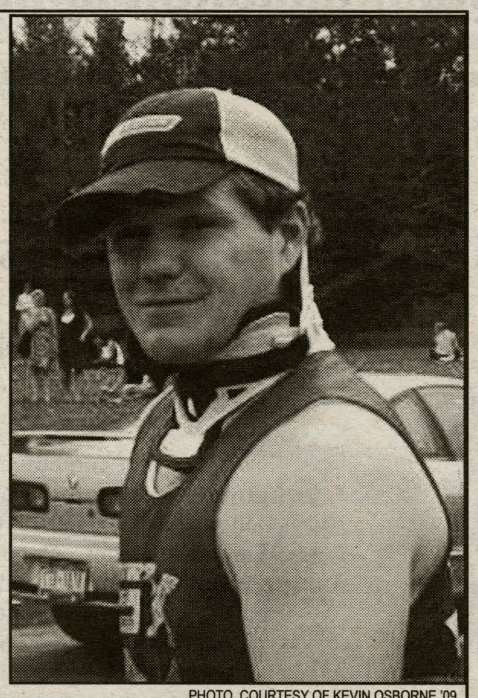


PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN OSBORNE '09

Age: 22
Eye Color: Blue
Height: 5'7"
Sign: Capricorn
Hometown: Peabody, MA

Major: Economics
On Campus Activities: Hockey, Golf, Psi U, having hangs, cuddling & bocce

Interested In: Girls
What You Are Looking For Now: Dating, Anything (pulse recommended)

Ideal Date:
On Campus: Late night diner then 5th floor of South
Off Campus: The Rusty Rail
If I were to prepare a romantic dinner, the menu would be: Anything that is not green.
My ideal Date is wearing: Anything saucy.

Turn Ons: Girls that smell good.
Turn Offs: Smokers.

Dating Deal Makers: What the F**K is dating?
Dating Deal Breakers: None, I'm up for anything.

Favorites
Place On Campus: South 306! Get to Know It!
Exercise At The Gym: Calf raises and calf raises
Gift to give: Three inches of pure power.
Gift to get: Make out sesh.
Song: "Dirty Pop" by Justin Timberlake
Book: Anything with pictures.
Movie: Sharktales
"Guilty Pleasure" Song: "Sexual Healing" by Marvin Gaye
"Guilty Pleasure" Movie: The Notebook
Celeb Crush: Megan Fox
Campus Crush: Erica Pettis
Breakfast: Sausage
TV Show: The Hills
Quote: "Neuuuummmaannn Brutallllll"
Car: Passatt

Or?
Light Side or Dark Side? Light
Innie or Outie? Outie, Innie, Outie…Done.
Coffee or Tea? Coffee
Boxers or Briefs? Booty Shorts
Rok or VT? VT.
Opus or Dunkin? Dunkin
Keystone Light or Keystone Ice? Mike's Hard Raspberry Lemonade
Annex or ELS basement? Getting weird in either one.
KJ or SCCT? Love the late night Science Center.

If I were an animal I would be: A squirrel because I love nuts.
If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: Australia

The best pick-up line I have used: "Your body's name must be Visa, because that is everywhere I want to be."
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: "Your calves are almost as big as mine." Or "Can I give you a lap dance?"

You can tell I'm interested when I: Stare deep into her eyes and throw a sexy wink.

If I were to write a poem for my date it would be: Epic.

Stephanie Ryder '09

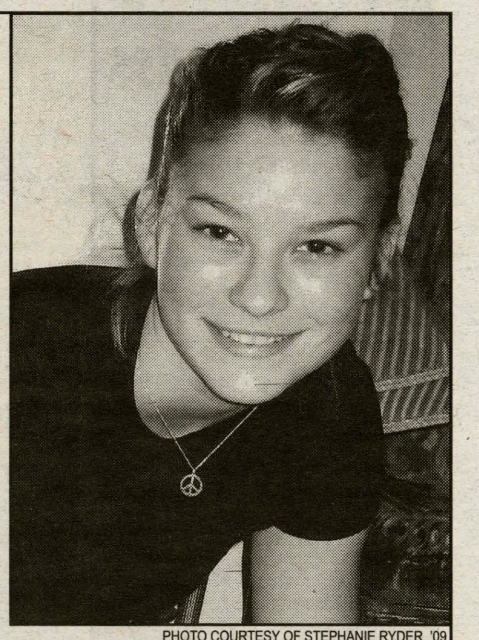


PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE RYDER '09

Age: 21
Eye Color: Brown, but hazel when the light hits them just right…
Height: 5'7"
Sign: Aquariys
Hometown: Brooklyn!

Major: Government
On Campus Activities: Co-Captain Women's Rugby, Senior Gift Co-Chair, J-Board, HALT, Orientation Leader, Little Pub barkeep.

Interested In: Men.
What You Are Looking For Now: ANYTHING.

Ideal Date:
On Campus: Does that exist?
Off Campus: TexMex for lunch or Minar for dinner.
If I were to prepare a romantic dinner, the menu would be: Steak. Lots of Steak. Oh, and things with cheese.
My ideal Date is wearing: A plain t-shirt and jeans.

Turn Ons: Pretty eyes, big appetites, scruffy beards, six-pack abs and Rolling Rock.
Turn Offs: Bad table manners and ugly sneakers; not showing up to my rugby games.

Dating Deal Makers: Text messages to distract me in class.
Dating Deal Breakers: The "Are you up?" phone call in the middle of the night.

Favorites
Place On Campus: The Little Pub and late-night diner.
Gift to give: Sneakers
Gift to get: Food and expensive jewelry.
Song: "OoOo AhHh" by the Grits
Book: *Me Talk Pretty One Day* by David Sedaris
Movie: Love Actually
"Guilty Pleasure" Song: "Damaged" by Danity Kane
"Guilty Pleasure" TV Show: the OC
Celeb Crush: Leonardo DiCaprio
Ex-Administrative Crush: <3 Pete Kopp <3
Campus Crush: all the boys who visit me at the pub
TV Show: The Hills
Quote: "Thug means never having to say you're sorry."
Car: I still don't have my driver's license

Or?
Light Side or Dark Side? Light
Innie or Outie? Innie
Coffee or Tea? Tea
Boxers or Briefs? Boxers, especially if they fit me too
Rok or VT? VT, especially on Dollar Draft Tuesdays
Opus or Dunkin? Dunkin – I had my first DD iced-coffee last spring
Keystone Light or Keystone Ice? Light
Annex or ELS basement? The annex, where shirts are usually bogus.
KJ or SCCT? Depends on my mood.

If I were an animal I would be: A can because I have squinty eyes.
If I were a color I would be: Neon green because it always makes me smile.

The best pick-up line I have used: I'm scared s***less of approaching boys first.
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: "Did it hurt? When you fell from heaven?"

You can tell I'm interested when: Eye contact – smile, then the smooth look away, I'll probably buy him a drink.

If I were to write a poem for my date it would be: Yeah… I don't "do" poems.

Interesting Fact: I have six tattoos, but I've fainted three times getting immunizations.

Think You Know A Better Bach'?

E-MAIL SPECBACHELOR@GMAIL.COM WITH YOURBACHELOR AND BACHELORETTE NOMINATIONS!

Compiled by Erin Hoener, Managing Editor

Weekly Charts

by Rebecca Griffin '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

MUSIC
(From billboard.com)

Top Albums
1. Death Magnetic - Metallica
2. Year of the Gentleman- Ne-Yo
3. Brass Knuckles - Nelly
4. Rock N Roll Jesus - Kid Rock
5. Learn to Live - Darius Rucker

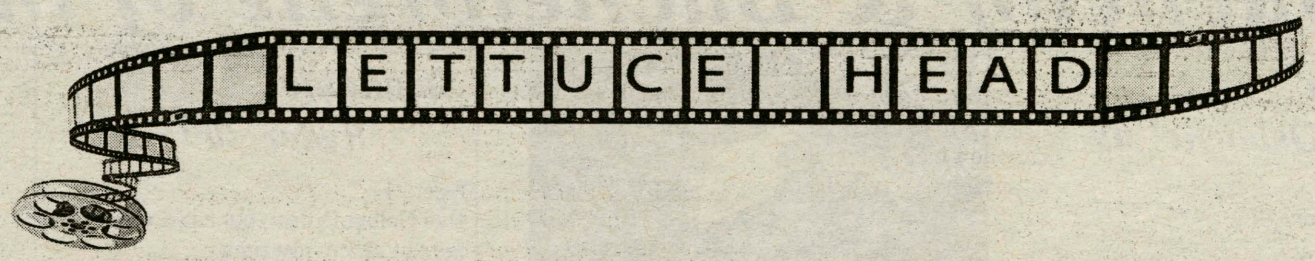
Top Songs
1. Whatever You Like -T. I.
2. So What - Pink
3. Love Lockdown - Kanye West
4. Disburbia - Rihanna.
5. Love Story - Taylor Swift

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Movies)
1. Lakeview Terrace
2. Burn After Reading
3. My Best Friend's Girl
4. Igor
5. Righteous Kill
6. Tyler Perry's The Family That Preys
7. The Women
8. Ghost Town
9. The Dark Knight
10. The House Bunny

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction
1, ATTENTION, by Neal Stephenson
2. THE CHOICE, by Nicholas Sparks
3. BAREFOOT, by Elin Hilderbrand
4. WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, by Sara Gruen
5. THE ALCHEMIST, by Paulo Coelho

Paperback Non-Fiction
1.. EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert
2. THREE CUPS OF TEA, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
3. THE AUDACITY OF HOPE, by Barack Obama
5. A LONG WAY GONE, by Ishmael Beah
5. NIGHTS IN RODANTHE, by Nicolas Sparks



PRESENTED BY JOE KAZACOS '10 AND JOSHUA HICKS '09

I Really <3 Huckabees!!!!!

There's something about finding one's place in the world that really turns me on to the exploration of existential thought in film. Take Garden State or The United States of Leland as a couple of thought provoking films, which push us to think about our pathetic little lives and what they really mean to us.

What Huckabees does so well is take two extreme views and places you, the viewer, smack dab in the middle. Five lettuceheads for Jason Schwartzman's brilliant performance. Also in the film is Dustin Hoffman, Jude Law, and Mark Wahlberg, who offer tremendous views as to who we are, why we're here, and whether we are really connected in purpose or just stuck in endless chaos. SEE THIS FILM and get ready to laugh your buns off!

Drillbit Taylor (Tayrible)

This is a comedy about a group of nerds who enter high-school as the bottom rung of the social ladder. The premise seems cliché, but a hired body-guard, Owen Wilson, enters the picture to defend the boys and teaches them life-changing lessons. Owen is cast as a conniving vagabond, with malicious intentions, but , predictably, he too learns a lesson from the experience.

Overall, the plot for this movie seemed exhausted, like just another "Revenge of the Nerds." The film does have its moments but hardly enough to deem praise. Wilson's wit helped keep the flick going but it fell flat. *Drilbit Taylor* is a good "Sunday Morning" flick and nothing more. DO NOT SEE THIS FILM!

It gets 2.5 lettuceheads for being terrible.

Alarm Will Sound Rocks Wellin Hall

by Benjamin Price '09
Arts adn Entertainment Writer

Alarm Will Sound, a 20-member band the New York Times is calling "one of the most vital and original ensembles on the American music scene," played Wellin Hall last Saturday night. After the show, Samual Pellman, Hamilton College Professor of Music, shared his thoughts about the performance.

"It was exciting to watch the audience at this concert," Pellman said. "I've been to 'contemporary music' concerts where either only twelve people showed up in the first place or there were only twelve people there at the end. But this wasn't like that! People were very excited all the way through . . . . I personally gave 'Revolution 9' a standing ovation, which is something I'm usually stingy about—but I just thought it was brilliant."

Indeed, the highlight of the show occurred at the end of the first half, when AWS performed an all-acoustic rendition of The Beatles' "Revolution 9," the White Album's ground-breaking electronic piece that shocked pop audiences when it was released in 1968.

Pellman couldn't praise the performance enough: "The way [arranger Matt Marks] solved the very interesting problems of taking an electric piece and transcribing it for acoustic sources—what he did . . . was just stunning."

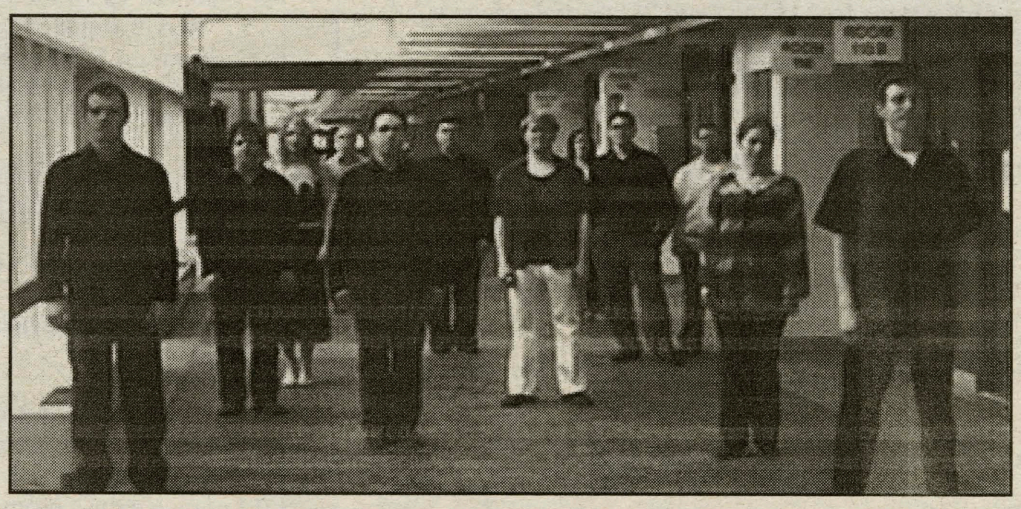
Pellman is particularly interested in the different ways electronic and acoustic music effect listeners. He says: "The problem with all electronic stuff has been that it removes the immediacy of having live performers in the space. It completely deflates the principle social dimension of the music listening experience . . . With acoustic music, you can always associate the sounds you hear with the gestures you see the performers making. But when it's a turntable or a laptop, the same little keystroke . . . the same physical gesture can cover an entire range of expressive sounds."

In addition to Revolution 9, AWS performed renditions of Karlheinz Stockhausen's "American section from Hymnen" and John Adams' "Son of Chamber Symphony," among others.

Alarm Will Sound's performance lives up to Pellman's description of their ability to absorb and re-create music: "Their ears are open, and they're not going to let themselves be pigeonholed."

Alarm Will Sound's repertoire includes classical and contemporary pieces by a range of artists including The Beatles, Wolfgang Rihm, John Adams, Aphex Twin, Sefan Freund, Augusta Read Thomas, Derek Bermel, Payton MacDonald and Edgard Varese.

Alarm will Sound will be touring Eastern Europe through the Fall and will return to North America in early January. For more information about AWS, or to buy tickets for their upcoming shows or recordings, visit alarmwillsound.com.



WWW.BROOKLYNVEGAN.COM

Alarm Will Sound are former Artists-In-Residence at Dickinson College.

Myspace Creates Superstars

by Rachel Pohl '11
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Facebook may be the most popular social networking website, but MySpace is one of the most prevalent sites to discover new and upcoming artists. With MySpace's "Today's Top Artists" feature, which is divided into three categories—unsigned, indie, and major–hundreds of music groups reinforce their status and or find their fame. This week's top artists include The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, Ying Yang Twins, and Akon, all of whom are from the South: the The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus come from Jacksonville, Florida while the Ying Yang Twins and Akon hail from Atlanta, Georgia.

The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, this weeks' most popular unsigned artist, is a pop punk/ emo group who released their first album in 2004. *"Don't You Fake It,"* their 2006, album was number 25 on the U.S. charts and featured singles such as 'Face Down" and "False Pretenses." Their 2007 album, *Your Guardian Angel,* was number one in the Philippines, but did not get on the charts in the U.S. They are currently working on an album that is going to be released in early 2009. The group sounds similar to Blink-182, My Chemical Romance, and Rise Against.

Started by Ronnie Winter and Duke Kitchens in 2001, the band now has five members. The group lobbies to prevent youth suicide, taking proactive steps by headlining for the American *Take Action! Tour* which sponsors awareness about suicide. While they are popular among the emo crowd, their music is less than tolerable for those who are not emo fans. A worsened version of Blink-182, the group may not be number one on the MySpace charts for long.

The Ying Yang Twins, this week's most popular indie group, gained their popularity in 2000 with their hit single "Whistle While you Twurk" which peaked at number 16 on the Hip-Hop charts. The group kept the hits coming with "Wait (The Whisper Song)" in 2005 and "Get Low" in 2007. The hip hop/ rap group is similar to Lil' Jon and Three 6 Mafia and consists of 30 year old Eric Jackson and 29 year DeAngelo Holmes. Their songs are a bit misogynistic with lyrics such as "wait 'till you see my dick," yet the catchy rhythm and smooth rap lyrics keeps the hits coming. Their most recent album, *The Official Work*, was released just last month. For those who are unfamiliar with the Ying Yang Twins, they are worth a listen even for those who do not enjoy rap. Music by the Ying Yang Twins is likely to be played at a party with their perfect-for-dancing beats.

Akon has earned the spot of this week's most popular major artist, which comes as no surprise. As the only artist to ever hold both the number one and two spots simultaneously on the Billboard Hot 100 charts twice, Akon is one of hip-hop's greatest artists. His 2004 single "Locked Up" put his name on the charts, but he didn't stop there. "Smack That," a 2006 hit single from the album *Konvicted* earned a nomination for the Grammy Award. His newest album, *Freedom,* will be released this November. Akon is the winner of the American Music Awards' 2007 "Favorite Male R&B Artist" award as well as the winner of the Teen Choice Awards' 2007 "Choice Male Breakthrough Artist." Akon's success does not stop at music though; he has a reality television show in the works and released a clothing line, *Konvict Clothing,* in 2007. Akon is definitely worth listening to. Akon's success as a rap artist is not a coincidence; his catchy rhythms and lyrics are easy to dance to and sing along with.

Note: Some label and discography information on Myspace and similar websites may not be up-to-date.

HAMILTON HOROSCOPES

by Rebecca Griffin '09
Staff Seer

Aries: Your symbol is the ram....and it's the weekend of the farm party. Stay inside on Friday.

Taurus: You'll have a week of ups and downs...mainly face-downs in Minor Field.

Gemini: Read *Calvin and Hobbes*. It will change your life.

Cancer: Beware girls wearing black this weekend. Think this is a joke? Yeah, we'll see who's laughing Monday morning.

Leo: Opportunity is right around the corner. So sneak up on it and beat it with sticks before it can get you first.

Virgo: Have you ever run into a church yelling "REPENT!"? This might be the week to try it.

Libra: You're known for rash decisions. Forget this and follow your dreams of becoming the lifeguard for a nudist beach.

Scorpio: You can't bottle love.....but you can bottle herpes medication.

Sagittarius: Your sign is the hardest to spell.

Capricorn: You're the most gentle and sensitive of all signs...and the one with the most tender meat.

Aquarius: Good news, you can look forward to a weekend full of life. Bad news, you're pregnant.

Pisces: Your symbol is the fish. Remember this as you get drunk and attempt to swim up the new KJ fountain like a salmon.

Applewagon Talks

by Lyndra Vassar '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

If outer space rock were an actual destination, Applewagon would be its rocket. Since their Halloween debut in 2006, Applewagon's electronic funk has shaken the musical scene not only acquired a great deal of notoriety on campus but have also infused Hamilton's social scene with a new kind of energy. Applewagon's popular covers of songs like "Paper Planes" by MIA and "Lovefool" by the Cardigans have been performed with exciting [performance tricks] and energy. Through their dank costumes and sound,

WWW.MYSPACE.COM

Applewagon is a favorite among Hamilton performers.

of Hamilton for two years, going strong. Originally known as the Electric Robots, the band has experienced an evolution of names –including Incendiary Pandas, Kinetics to Leafhouse, and the oh-so-memorable BonerJam – but finally settled on Applewagon as their signature alias. While the band has shifted members over the years, their current entourage consists of Dave Moroney '09 (vocals), Sander Doucette '09 (guitar), Charlie Kaplan '11(bass), Mason Fried '10 (keyboards), and Phil Tracey '09 (drums).

Whether performing at a debauch beer-filled Annex or a charity benefit for Darfur, Applewagon's versatile sound continues to astonish the rowdy and esoteric alike. In their most recent success on September 20, Applewagon captivated a crowd of 600 students in the Fillius Events Barn – the largest audience they've had since their debut in 2006.

But what makes them so popular on campus? Bassist Phil Tracy remarked, "High energy theatrics are probably our main source of attraction, as are our covers which generally border along the lines of silly guilty pleasures." It seems that these playful guilty pleasures have successfully rocked the music scene off-campus. After their successful benefit concert for Run for the Fallen last summer, Applewagon announced their first independent EP, "Time for One More," scheduled for release this semester. The album will include popular originals, "Icarus" and "Burnin the Candle," two tracks laden with psychedelic cool and thought-provoking lyrics.

To follow up their most recent campus shows, Applewagon plans to perform a Halloween show in the Annex on Friday, October 31st. As an integral part of family weekend's entertainment, the band anticipates costumes, parents, and, of course, parents in costumes. Be sure to attend and check out their exclusive hits at http://www.applewagonband.com/iWeb/applewagon/Home.html.

Applewagon creates the kind of performance that transforms a tame social gathering in the quaint village of Clinton to a lively uproar of bodies in a Hamilton dance-party. In the words of the humorous and wily Dave Moroney, "Our music makes people get naked."

Besides inciting hundreds of college students to dance and sing along, Applewagon has

"Our music makes people get naked."
-Dave Maroney '09

Art, Comfort and Coffee at College Street Cafe

A New Space in Clinton Supports Fosters Community and Supports Local Artists

by Alex Ossola '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For students from large metropolitan areas, Clinton may seem "quaint" or "sleepy," " but nothing can compete with that small-town feel and the impression that everyone knows your name and you're always a regular. The recently opened *College Street Café* brings you back to that Everytown, U.S.A feeling.

The *College Street Café* was not opened only as a vendor for its unique drinkable and edible creations (from coffee treats to sweets and superb bean-less chili). Owner Cathy Mosher saw a need in Clinton for a space where the arts can play and thrive. While we chatted beneath the café's trademark *Obsessed* painted by Cathy herself, she said, "It's important for everyone to have an opportunity to be an artist or musician, for each person's own expression, even if they think they're no good at it. [Here,] anybody can hang his or her art, even a kid." Besides the rotating series of paintings and sculptures that adorn every wall, almost all of which are available for sale, the small studio in the back of the café is available for anyone's use. "We hold open art classes. On Wednesdays, artists paint out on the lawn. Eric Whitfield, one of our regular artists, frequently sits at a table with his coffee, and sometimes uses customers' faces as ideas for his paintings and sketches," said Cathy.

The Café has yet another unique connection to the arts through music and live entertainment. Every Wednesday night at the Café is Open Mic Night, an event extremely popular with Clinton High School students. During my chat with Cathy, two sisters from the high school walked into the Café, opened the piano in one of the sitting rooms, and played and sang together. The environment at College Street welcomes anyone to just play whenever and whatever they want. The live entertainment has included out-of-town acts, but Cathy wants to book more local acts.

"People are more likely to hear a friend perform than some out of town act they've never heard of. We've also had *Tumbling After* here in the spring, and they were so good. We play their CD all the time. Yodapez has been here several times and there was an incredible reaction from the audience. We'd love to have all sorts of student groups perform," said Cathy.

Besides being an important space for the exploration of music and the arts in Central New York, the Café is unique because of its relaxed, inviting quality. Cathy said, "The Kirkland Arts Center has always been there and they provide a great opportunity for music and arts."

The College Street Café is different than traditional art centers because it's "an interactive kind of space and it's more open to the community. It is welcoming to people who aren't necessarily very experienced." For this reason, more than any other, The College Street Café is an important establishment in Clinton and, already popular with Hamilton students, will only contribute in the future to connect the college community with the Clinton community.

To get more information about the café and to see a schedule of future live performances, visit http://www.collegestreetcafe.com/ or take a leisurely walk down the Hill.

PHPTO BY ALEX OSSALA

Clinton's cozy and unique College Street Cafe feels like art studio meets home.

Lauralyn Kolb Performance

by Michelle Reisner-Memmer
Performing Arts Administrator

The Hamilton College Department of Music will present a free vocal recital by Hamilton College faculty artist Lauralyn Kolb, soprano, with accompanist Tina Toglia, piano, on Saturday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. in Wellin Hall. The recital will include arias and art songs from the 17th to the 20th centuries including works by Henry Purcell, Gacomo Puccini, Reynaldo Hahn, Richard Strauss and John Duke.

A native of California, soprano Lauralyn Kolb holds degrees from Occidental College and Smith College. She has appeared throughout the United States as a recitalist and oratorio singer, and has recorded "Lieder" by Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel with pianist Arlene Shrut (Centaur Records) and "Songs" by Clara Schumann, Poldowski, and Amy Beach with pianist Don McMahon (Albany Records). This last recording prompted Robert Long of Audio magazine to write: "Over and over in studying these songs, I've been arrested by the charm and rightness of Kolb's phrasing, by the warmth and expressiveness of her manner, and by the sheer beauty of her voice. She is a treasure..." Her third CD, *Just-Spring*: *Art Songs of John Duke*, with pianist Tina Toglia is part of New World Records' prestigious Recorded Anthology of American Music. Kolb's performances of both recital and oratorio have been heard on WCNY Classic FM Public Radio, and her recording of Hensel's "Italien" has been featured on NPR's SchickeleMix.

A committed teacher, Ms. Kolb has taught voice at Hamilton College for more than twenty years. She has also taught at Colgate University, has given master classes on both coasts, and has served as the New York State Governor of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Her former students have sung throughout the United States and in Europe in operatic, musical theater, recital, and choral venues.

Pianist Tina Toglia received her Doctorate in Piano Performance from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and both a bachelor's and master's degree from Temple University. She also has a diploma in collaborative piano from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. As an advocate for new music Toglia has given numerous premiere performances at Merkin Hall, the 92nd St. Y, Columbia University and Princeton University. She has been the recipient of fellowships from the Yale Summer School of Music and Art, the Bach Aria Festival and the Tanglewood Music Festival. She was a finalist in the J. S. Bach International Piano competition and was the winner of concert competitions at both Temple University and Stony Brook. Dr. Toglia was harpsichordist for the Stony Brook Early Music Ensemble and the Capital Chamber Players in Albany. Toglia has been a pre-concert lecturer for the Great Artist Series at the Stanley Theatre in Utica and has lectured for the Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement. She has taught piano, music history and theory at SUNY Stony Brook, State University College at Oneonta, SUNY Institute of Technology and Utica College. She currently maintains a private studio in New Hartford, NY.

This concert is free and open to the public. For directions or more information about this or other Wellin events, call the box office at 859-4331.

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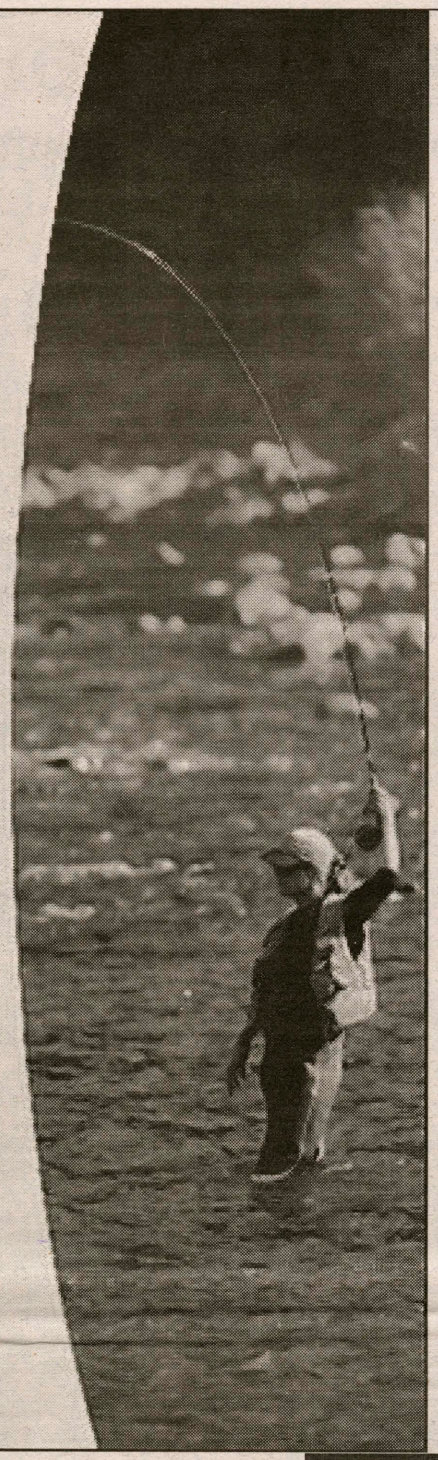

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What Are the Most Dangerous Drugs for You?

by Saad Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Writer

Is ecstasy safer than alcohol? Are popping pills and smoking cannabis safer than binge drinking? And if so, what should the legal recourse be? Such are the types of questions posed by new research from top medical experts in Britain, which was presented to the mainstream audience through the BBC Horizon documentary series.

For two years, top British scientists, including members of Britain's foremost medical committee on drug classification, converged efforts to construct a ranking system for popularly used and abused drugs that are both classified (on the standard A-B-C scale) and unclassified. Pharmacologist David Nutt compiled the research and published a paper in The Lancet; the paper received much praise for its revolutionary spirit, but was also deemed controversial enough for the BBC to produce it into one of its premier documentaries.

The rankings of the drugs in terms of danger to human health are presented in the sidebar. Surprised by the list? As emphasized in my previous article on Malcolm Gladwell's Blink, first impressions are extremely significant, so take a moment and note what you first thought after you read the list. Perhaps you didn't have any significant reactions toward the list, until you finally noticed number five, alcohol.

When I asked Raul Patrascu ('12) to describe his immediate thoughts, he said "I'm surprised that alcohol is higher on the list than ecstasy, but it's probably just because seeing people completely drunk is mundane these days." Many of you may have had a similar reaction. Thus, let's examine the alcohol vs. ecstasy case more closely.

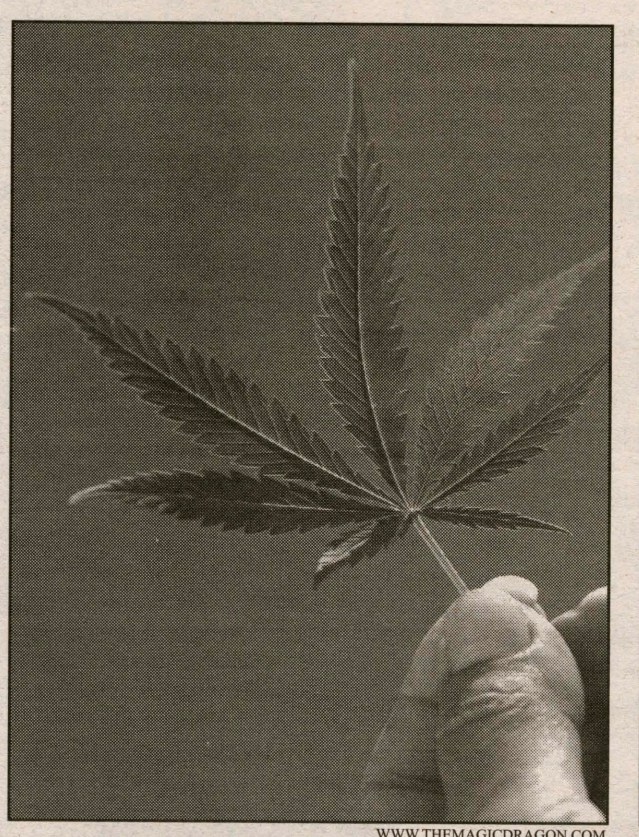
Now for a little science: Why is ecstasy ranked as a much safer drug than alcohol? In general, ecstasy releases large quantities of serotonin, a neurotransmitter responsible for overall feelings of well-being. If you have ever done a truly good deed, such as donating to a worthy charity, and literally felt a "tingle" that you liked, this feeling was actually caused by your brain releasing serotonin. When large quantities of serotonin are released due to intake of ecstasy, one feels that tingly feeling in a much more grandiose manner. Latest research indicates that selective serotonin uptake inhibitors (SSRIs), medications given to the depressed that essentially extend the life span of individual serotonin neurotransmitters, are also potential causes for neurogenesis (the creation of new neurons (brain cells)).

On the other hand, both alcohol and tobacco release dopamine. Dopamine is the more "romantic" and "passionate" of the neurotransmitters; it is responsible for feelings such as sexual desire, dangerous and spontaneous fun, and other risqué, pleasurable or rewarding feelings that stimulate rather than soothe. However, dopamine also destroys serotonin when released out of balance, such as when drinking; thus, the feeling of well-being and overall healthiness is reduced. Furthermore, when dopamine is released in large quantities, your brain loves the feeling, so much so that it actually becomes addicted to it, which is why drugs that are dopamine-inducing rather than serotonin-inducing are also more addictive.

I asked Professor Douglas Weldon of the psychology and neuroscience departments for comments regarding the report that published these rankings of harmful drugs, and he had the following to say: "they [the researchers] developed a good mechanism of ranking drugs in terms of their harmfulness. They proposed that three categories of harm (physical harm produced by the drug, tendency to induce dependence, and cost to families and society of the use of the drug) be summed to produce a score used for ranking. Although any scale of this sort entails some assumptions that can be argued with, the approach and results are reasonable."

A major concern in multiple realms of academia, including science, economics, politics, and law, involves the apparent backwardness of the drugs classification system. For instance, it is clear in the chart below that multiple unclassified drugs, such as alcohol and tobacco, trump classified drugs such as cannabis, LSD, and ecstasy with respect to danger to human health. Is it time to revise the classification system that

see ***Room For****, page 20*



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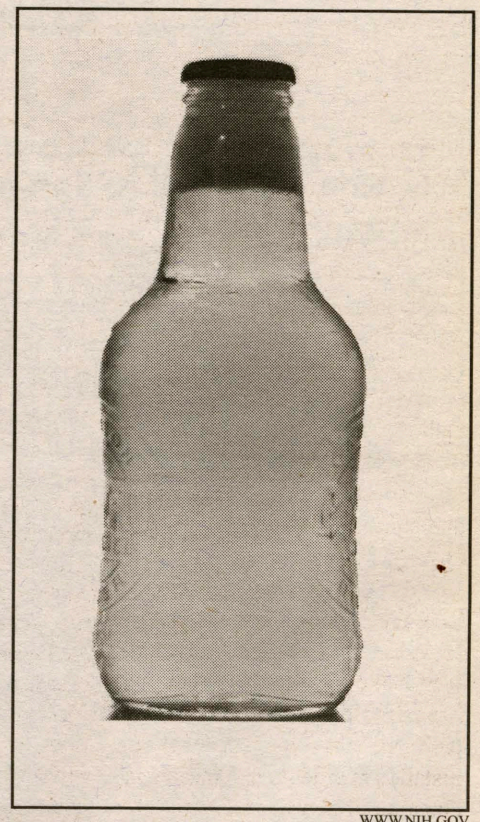

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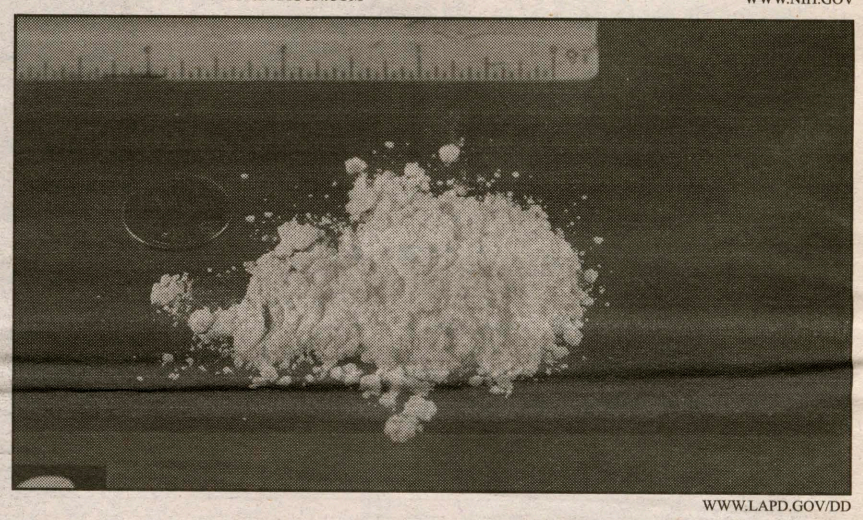

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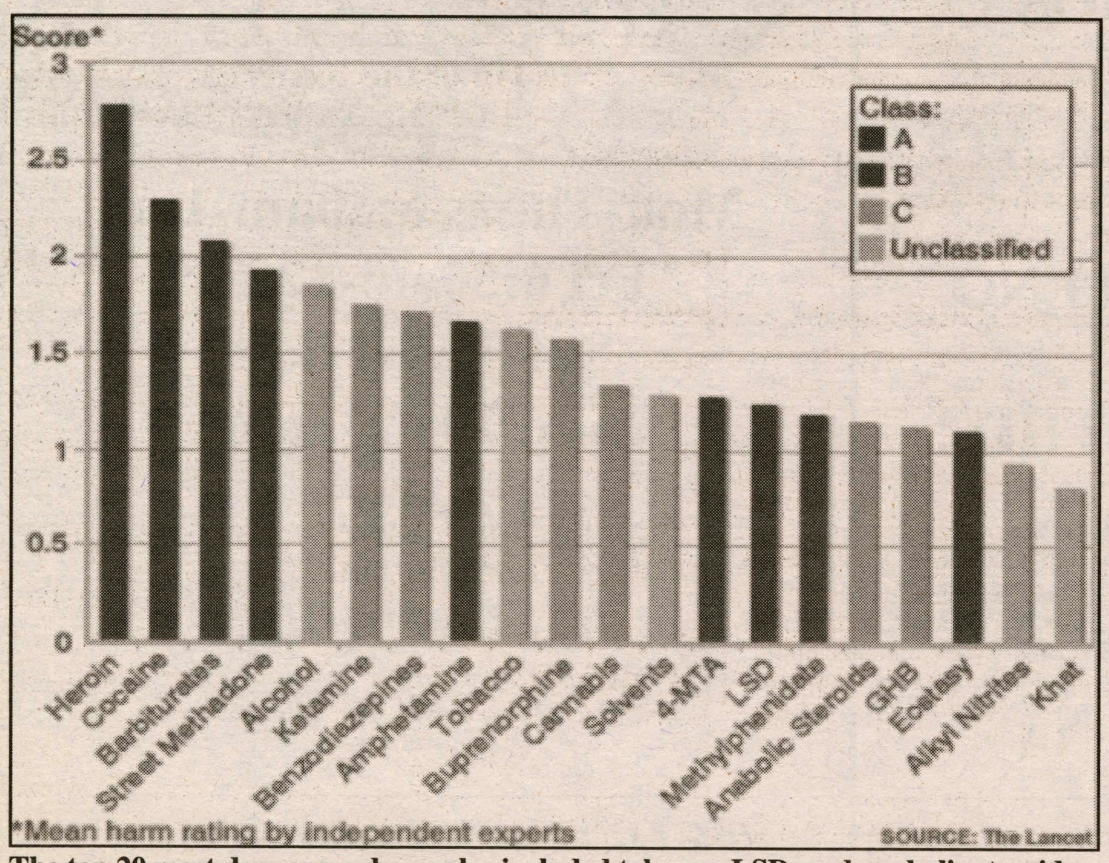
Clockwise from top left: marijuana, alcohol, and street methadone were all on the list of the 20 most dangerous drugs in a study published in *The Lancet* in 2007. Alcohol was ranked number five, surprisingly high.



The top 20 most dangerous drugs also included tobacco, LSD, and anabolic steroids.

The Top 20 Most Dangerous Drugs

FROM DAVID NUTT'S PAPER PUBLISHED IN *THE LANCET* IN 2007

1. *Heroin*
2. *Cocaine*
3. *Barbituates*
4. *Street Methadone*
5. *Alcohol*
6. *Ketamine*
7. *Benzodiazephines*
8. *Amphetamine*
9. *Tobacco*
10. *Buprenorphine*
11. *Cannabis*
12. *Solvents*
13. *4-MTA*
14. *LSD*
15. *Methylphanidate*
16. *Anabolic Steroids*
17. *GHB*
18. *Ecstasy*
19. *Alkyl Nitrates*
20. *Khat*

New KJ Continues Tradition of Green Building

by Jessica Carroll '12
Science & Technology Writer

Sitting on the floor in the new Kirner-Johnson addition is something almost magical. The cone-shaped lamps illuminate the potted trees, and the sound of the waterfall trickles up to the top of the three-story-tall opening. The carpet is a mossy green collaboration of interlaced rectangles, with navy blue blocks interspersed at even intervals. From floor to ceiling, the whole effect is akin to a forest, as it was intended. The multicolored chairs are flowers and shrubs, while the high white ceiling is a cloud.

KJ is, however, not just pretty to look at. The building's addition, which cost over $23 million to complete, is composed of environmentally friendly materials. Efficient low-volume air systems, installed in order to reduce energy consumption, are integrated into the building design. There are individual thermostats in every room, in order to more exactly control the heating needs of the building, ensuring that one space does not become unbearably hot while another requires winter jackets.

Another interesting component of the construction was the installation of heating coils underneath the adjacent Martin's Way. The coils will unquestionably prove invaluable during the winter months, when snow and ice blanket the campus, by helping to keep the walkway clear. Not only will this innovation reduce the workload of those clearing the paths, but it will also provide an added level of safety since ice buildup will be significantly reduced on dangerous parts of the path, such as the ramp leading up to McEwen.

By the numbers, Phase I has added eight classrooms of different configurations; for example, a unique horseshoe- shaped room allows the professor to interact with all of the students, even in a large class. There is approximately 40,000 square feet of new space, consisting of classrooms, offices and common areas. This addition not only includes the classrooms, but also 24 new faculty offices, and every department received a "resource room," with which they could do as they wished. According to a video produced and edited by Phillip J. Hoying '09, the Anthropology Department requested "bean bag chairs and lava lamps," while Economics wanted "computers and more formal spaces." At the end of Phase II, scheduled for June 2009, there will be a total of 93,000 square feet of KJ.

Returning to the environmental aspect of the new addition, approximately 90 percent of the contracts for labor and materials were made with local companies within a 50 mile radius. This policy not only supports the surrounding community but also decreases the overall carbon footprint of the project by lowering the transportation costs.

KJ, in addition to having the individual thermostats in rooms has also been equipped with variable drive speed motors in order to use the least amount of energy possible. The classrooms also have occupancy sensors so that light and heat are not wasted on an empty room. Together, these devices cut energy costs for Hamilton and help conserve the environment.

Other exciting ways in which KJ is environmentally friendly include the solar and wind power units installed on campus. These units are connected to the electrical system and work by placing power back onto the grid to both provide more power for buildings and reduce Hamilton's dependency on outside energy sources.

As of this writing, Hamilton buys energy from renewable sources through its energy provider, National Grid. However, it has chosen to only buy 15 percent renewable energy when it would be possible to buy 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources without a heavy fee - the cost would be approximately 75 dollars per student, a cost that seems small compared to the recent 4.8 percent increase in tuition. The potential increase would be less than an average textbook per student. Hamilton would even be able to stay with its current energy provider.

However, even though Hamilton could take more steps in the fight for the environment, the new KJ addition is far more environmentally friendly than it could have been and shows a conscious effort on Hamilton's part to do what it can. Furthermore, the new addition is unquestionably useful to students. As Tim Shaw '10 said "The addition works for me because it allows me to get work done but also to work on my social skills and be distracted from my work, which is rather important to me…sometimes."

Overall, KJ has been vastly improved from the crowded, dark space it was before and has now become a light, airy, and open space for teachers and students for both socializing and work alike.

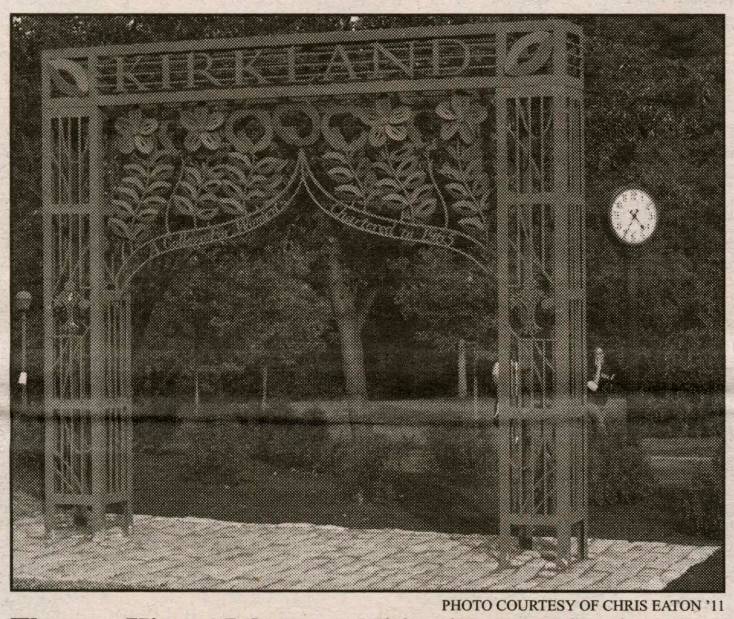


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS EATON '11

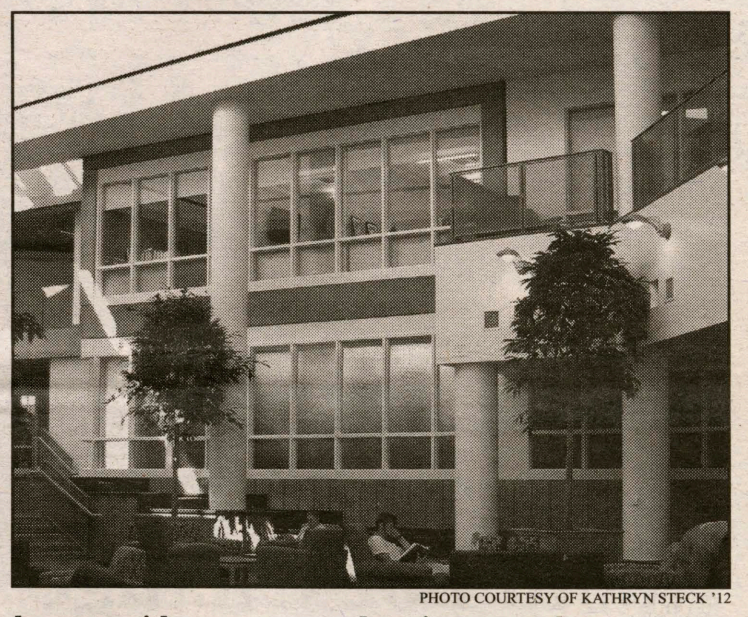


PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHRYN STECK '12

The new Kirner Johnson addition is a combination of old elements with new space and environmental awareness.

Can We Fix Global Climate Change With Iron Pellets?

by Nico Kessler '10
Science & Technology Writer

Earth. It's our home. It rotates slowly around the sun in a serene elliptical dance, pirouetting on its own axis while flirting with the moon. It's big. It's blue. It's beautiful. It's covered in CO2. It's probably going to be a fiery hell hole in the near future.

We all must accept that in the future the world will be a place where no one can release carbon into the atmosphere, and carrying out this transformation from a globalized, fossil feul dependent society will take a long time. As a result, the scientific community's perspective as to what do to about global warming is changing.

Previously, suggesting solutions to engineer the planet in order to prevent global warming were looked down upon, since it gave the public the impression that driving around in big SUV's was acceptable since the public believed scientists were capable of finding a way for dealing with all the CO2 released or the green house effect they cause. But with humanities slowness at terminating the use of fossil fuels, and with global warming increasing at record rates, ideas about how we can change our planet on a larger scale are now more acceptable.

These projects may at first shock you or cause a smile to crawl onto your face. They sound somewhat absurd, unless you're a science fiction buff, but these days, the odds of something sounding absurd are rather low anyways. Regardless of their extremism, these ideas are being actively discussed within the community of scientists concerned with global warming. The prominent propositions are divided into two groups, those that aim at reducing the amount of carbon in the air, and those that aim at reducing the amount of light that hits the earth.

Projects Aiming at Removing CO2:

Ocean Fertilization:

In the world's oceans there is always an element that limits the growth of the primary producers at the base of the food chain. In many places these primary producers are single celled algae referred to as diatoms, and many of them have outer shells composed of Calcium Carbonate (CaCO3). In many parts of the world's oceans, diatoms' limiting element is Iron; therefore an abundance of Iron in these places would cause a bloom of diatoms. This would cause a

*see **Proposals**, page 20*

HEAG Green Week Events 2008

MONDAY, SEPT. 29:
"Colony Collapse Disorder in Honey Bees: The Tip of the Iceberg"
Lecture by UMASS Amherst Prof. John Burand

TUESDAY, SEPT. 30:
Bon Appetit hosts "Eat Local Challenge:

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 1:
Local Farmers' and Artisans' Market*
11AM -2PM - Martin's Way
Rain Location: Annex
***earliest shoppers to each vendor receive Free reusable shopping bag!**

THURSDAY, OCT. 2:
Campus Clean-Up
3-5PM - Meet at the Glen House

FRIDAY, OCT 3:
Film: "King Corn"
7:10PM - Science Center G041

Proposals to Curb Global Warming

from ***Can We****, page 19*

absorption of carbon to produce their shells. After their death, the diatoms would sink to the bottom of the ocean, never to be seen again, taking the carbon with them.

Flying Carbon Dioxide Vacuum Cleaner:

A professor from New York, Klaus Lackner, designed a machine that would fly in the atmosphere and capture CO2. Many of these machines may remove enough CO2 to slow down global warming.

Lasers and Radio Waves:

Oxygen is naturally ejected from the earth through the poles. Alfred Wong, a professor at UCLA, proposes using a combination of lasers and radio waves to jiggle CO2 particles to leave the earth through the same process.

Projects Aiming to Reflect Sunlight:

Sulfur Aerosols:

Sulfur in the air can cause acid rain. However, it can also reflect rays of light, and if placed in the stratosphere, higher than the point of cloud formation, it may cool the earth. Philip Rasch, of the National Centre for Atmospheric Research, in Boulder, Colorado, is researching this idea. By using this solution, commercial flights could start burning fuel with high content of sulfur in the stratosphere, and release all the tiny particles of sulfur needed in a short period of time.

Giant Sunshade Around Earth:

Astronomer Roger Angel proposes launching many mirrors that would orbit the earth and reflect sun rays.

Seawater Pumping Fleet of Ships:

British physics professor John Latham and engineer Stephan Salter have proposed constructing a fleet of ships that would pump fine particles of sea water into clouds. Particles of salt from the ocean spray would cause droplets of water in the air to bunch together more tightly, thus causing them to be more reflective. This would not increase the amount of clouds in the sky since that depends on the amount of water vapor in the air.

Room For Change in Points System

from ***What Are****, page 18*

has been virtually unchanged in many nations across the world for decades?

Hamiltonians may especially find Hamilton College's disciplinary point system of greater personal concern or interest. The point system penalizes students under 21 by merely one to two points for possession of alcohol, whereas if they possess an illegal substance, such as LSD, ecstasy, or 4-MTA—all of which are ranked safer than alcohol—than the points range from six to ten points, potentially permitting a student's suspension.

When asked about the point system's leniency towards alcohol and even cannabis when compared to other drugs such as ecstasy, Dean Landry, who supervises the point system, said, "Alcohol is legal for a portion of our student body. Also, our process mirrors the legal process, and in the legal process, marijuana is treated more lightly than other drugs."

And as for changing the point system, there is no doubt change is possible according to Dean Landry, for he said, "clearly there is room for change, if need be, and we have adjusted it a few times over the past few years." An example of a recent change, for instance, is the point forgiveness transferring from three points per year to two points per six months.

I asked Petrascu about what he thought of this point system, which seems contradictory to the scientific classification of drugs, and he replied, "I think the Hamilton point system is indeed as objective as possible because I believe drug abuse is worse than alcohol abuse in terms of ill effects."

Perhaps such an opinion is common amongst most Hamiltonians; however, with much of the recent debate on the Amethyst Initiative, along with the concern of an outdated drugs classification system, this newly popularized research by top British scientists will certainly have a role to play in any revolutionary events and decisions that may follow.

PROFESSOR PROFILE

Myriam Cotten, Chemistry

THE FACTS:

Name: Myriam Cotten

Department: Chemistry

College: Université Pierre et Marie Curie

Graduate Experience: Master's degree in chemical engineering from Ecole Supérieure de Chimie Organique et Minérale in Paris and Ph. D. in chemistry from Florida State University

Recent Research: the use and development of biophysical and biochemical techniques such as magnetic resonance to study the structure, function, and mode of action of membrane-interacting peptides and proteins, especially antimicrobial peptides.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MYRIAM COTTEN

INTERVIEW SECTION

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

Myriam Cotten: Passionate, investigative, and interdisciplinary.

EL: What areas of chemistry most interest you and why?

MC: I grew up in the countryside in France and always felt curious about the natural world. While I was learning biology, chemistry, and physics in school, I became very passionate about the molecular aspects of life. The vital roles played by tiny molecules in biological organisms were particularly fascinating to me. Also, by the time I was a junior in high school, I had chosen a scientific path. I decided to specialize in chemistry since it presented itself as the discipline that was the most inclusive of my interdisciplinary interests. My current interests include topics as specific as the relationships that exist between the shapes and functions of proteins. But I also have broader interests such as the molecular basis of behavior, and the psychological and philosophical questions that derive from this knowledge, including how people learn, how they make decisions, what they do with their lives, and how they impact the world they live in. This interrelatedness between chemistry, psychology, and philosophy is immensely fascinating to me.

EL: Why Hamilton?

MC: I am so thrilled to be at an institution where the liberal arts are very strong. It is absolutely fabulous to be surrounded by amazing students, inspiring faculty, and supportive staff. The emphasis put on rigorous, vigorous, and innovative teaching resonates very well with me. It is also very important to me that classes are small, departments are collegial, student-faculty creative projects are valued, and we have access to state-of-the-art facilities. Not only does Hamilton click with me professionally but the place also feels very grounding to me.

EL: What is your funniest/most entertaining childhood memory that you wouldn't mind sharing?

MC: I'd like to share a story that my parents love telling. I was about two and a half years old when for Christmas, I received a doll that could walk and talk. Without the knowledge of my parents, I armed myself with a screwdriver and pliers, and started investigating the mechanism behind the talking and walking. I successfully found batteries in the belly of the doll. So batteries were running the doll? I felt that it was a desolation! My parents remember this story as a symbol of my investigative nature, which persisted through my childhood.

EL: What is your favorite band/singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book, and your favorite home-cooked meal?

MC: My favorite band/singer changes with the occasion. I have a significant collection of European and US CDs from the 80's, 90's, and this decade. Thanks to my mom, I was very fortunate to discover Ray Charles when I was growing up in Brittany and I became an enthusiast. I am also very fond of Celtic music and I unconditionally love the music of Alan Stivell, a Breton singer/composer, who has a contagious passion for the Breton culture. Notably, Stivell has been the designer of his own electric Celtic harps for over twenty years.
I love chocolate as a flavor whether it is in ice cream or just about any other dessert!
One of my favorite books is *The Stranger* by Albert Camus. It was a reading assignment when I was in high school. Many of my peers did not like it but I was (and I am still) fascinated by Camus' philosophical message about the absurd.
My favorite home-cooked meal includes lots of fresh and organic veggies and fresh wild King Alaskan salmon followed by dark chocolate for dessert.

EL: What was the craziest thing you did in college you wouldn't mind sharing?

MC: When I was in college, I lived in a small studio on the eight floor of an old Parisian building that did not have an elevator to that top floor. So I have years of experience going up and down a narrow, wooden spiral staircase.

EL: What are you most looking forward to about joining the Hamilton community?

MC: I am very enthusiastic about joining an outstanding community of students, professors, and staff. Thanks to the various mailing lists on campus, I have quickly learned that the Hamilton community is very transparent about sharing what it cares about. Furthermore, the activities on campus emphasize that students are very engaged in local, regional, and global issues. I very much look forward to interacting with as many members of the Hamilton community as possible and contributing to the diverse activities that make this campus such a lively, enjoyable, and stimulating place. Needless to say, I also look forward to partnering with my students in the classroom and laboratory so that we can have a great time together exploring the depth and breadth of chemistry.

EL: What are some of your interests outside Hamilton?

MC: My interests are quite diverse. To name a few, they include my husband, family and friends, my dogs (two very cute miniature dachshunds), outdoors activities (e.g.; hiking and running), yoga, travel, reading, movies, music, art, and gardening.

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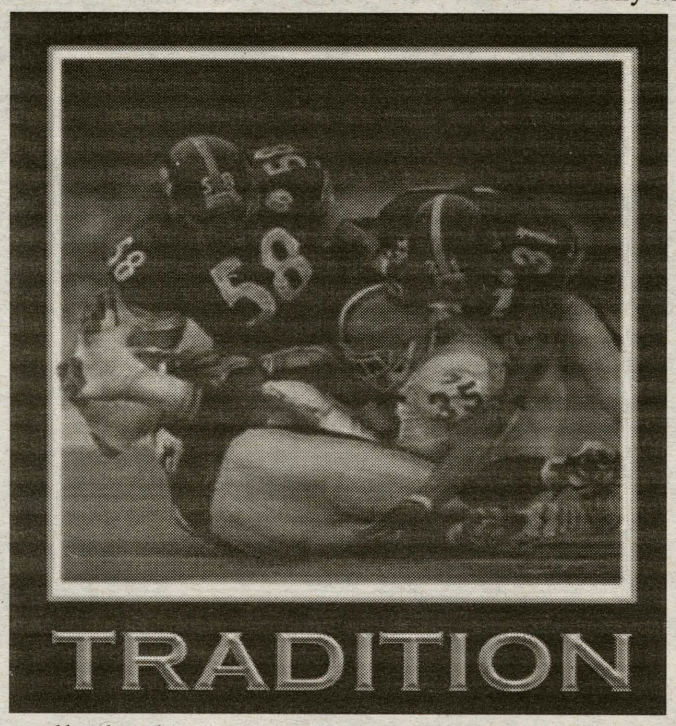
A Glance at the NFL's Steelers - Browns Rivalry

by Daniel Hagemeier '12
Sports Writer

One of the most exciting things about the NFL is its bitter rivalries between certain teams. More specifically, there is an ongoing battle between the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Cleveland Browns. The teams met two weeks ago in Cleveland. In a game that was dominated by both team defenses and that did not completely live up to the hype that surrounded it, the Steelers beat the Browns for the tenth consecutive time, winning 10-6. Hines Ward caught the only TD of the game in the second quarter. Pittsburgh scored another three points on a field goal in the third quarter while Cleveland scored field goals in both the third and the fourth quarters. Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger played effectively, finishing with one TD pass and 179 yards passing.

His counterpart on the Browns' offense, Derek Anderson, struggled during the game and threw two interceptions. Jamal Lewis rushed for only 38 yards, and Kellen Winslow led the team in receiving yards (55). In summary, the 73,000 spectators at Cleveland Browns stadium in Ohio saw an uneventful game that was marked by tactic and defense rather than a high final score.

However, the rivalry between the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Cleveland Browns is referred to as the Turnpike Rivalry and can be traced back to 1950 when the two teams first met. Cleveland was one of the best football teams at that time and they won all contests with the Steelers until 1954, including the first one which ended with a 30-17 victory for the Browns. The rivalry is based on the closeness of the two cities, which are located only 112 miles apart, and on the similarity between the two fan bases. Both cities have histories as important American industry centers, and their mainly blue-collar population is characterized by toughness, perseverance and hard work – qualities that are essential in playing successful football. The games between both teams were therefore always hard fought and full of emotion.

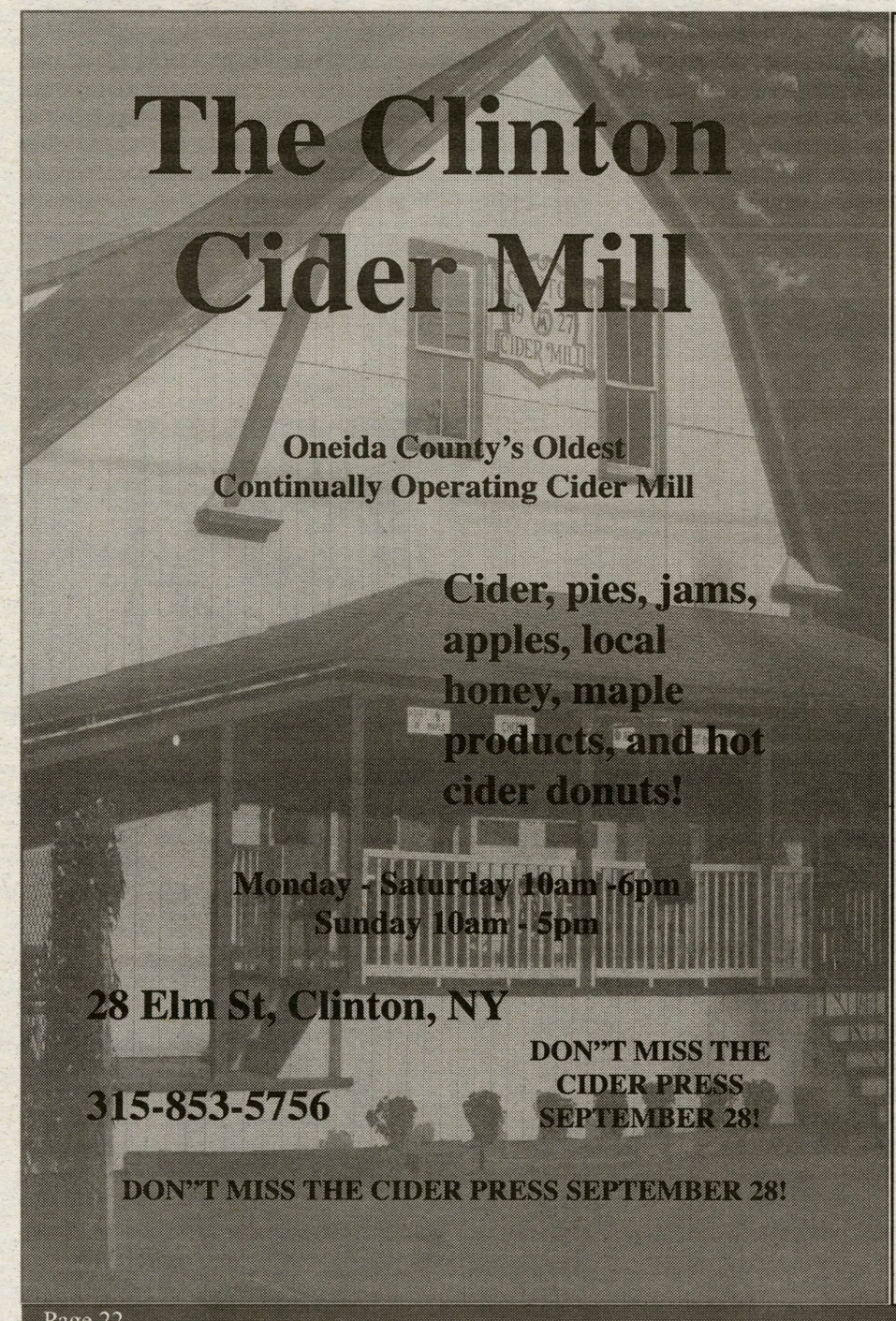


Cleveland dominated Pittsburgh in the 1950's and 1960's and collected a combined 25 divisional and league championships. When the AFL merged with the NFL in 1970's, the Steelers-Browns rivalry was one of the few that survived the change. Both teams were assigned to the AFC Central division. With the emergence of the NFL, the rise of the Pittsburgh Steelers started as well. Under coach Chuck Noll, a former Browns player and Cleveland native, the Steelers developed into one of the NFL's powerhouses. Led by one of the best draft classes of all time, the Steelers won Super Bowl IX in 1974. They won their first game against the Browns in ten years earlier that season. Three more Super Bowl titles followed for Pittsburgh during that decade.

With Pittsburgh's rise, the rivalry with the Browns intensified as well. Some of the most memorable moments of Steelers-Browns games come from that era. In 1976 for example, Browns defensive end Joe "Turkey" Jones lifted Steelers quarterback Terry Bradshaw off his feet after the whistle was blown and spiked him head first to the ground. Bradshaw was sidelined for two games due to an injury he suffered during this attack. Still, the Steel Curtain was the driving force during that time, and the Steelers won 11 of 12 matches.

What distinguishes this rivalry from others is the importance given to it by both fan bases. Winning the game against the respective rival is the most important goal every year, regardless of the performance during the rest of the season. Even more satisfying is to beat them at home. Accordingly, the Browns beat the Steelers in nine straight games at home from 1965 to 1973, and the Steelers defeated the Browns at home every time from 1970, when their Three Rivers Stadium opened, until 1986. Both teams met in the postseason for the first time in 1994, with the Steelers winning the contest. In 2006, the Steelers tied the overall series at 55-55.

Despite the intense rivalry between both teams, they have also shown immense respect for each other. This became particularly obvious in 1995 when Browns owner Art Modell announced that he was moving the team to Baltimore. Steelers fans showed their support to the opposing fan base by wearing orange armbands during a Monday Night Football game between both teams. However, the rivalry lost some of its intensity through Modell's decision, as Cleveland had no team for three years before being granted an expansion team in 1999. On the other hand, the rivalry still carried on. In 2004, Steelers linebacker Joey Porter and Browns RB William Green got involved in a pregame fistfight when the teams were warming up. One year later, Steelers linebacker James Harrison body-slammed a Browns fan to the ground who had run onto the field. These are just two among many examples that demonstrate the heated atmosphere that always rises when the teams meet.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Look for the rest of the semester's schedule soon!

Men's Soccer Wins Two, Securing 4-1 Record

by Daniel Hagemeier '12
Sports Writer

The men's soccer team finished an intense stretch of three games in seven days chalking up two more wins and their first loss of the season. The Continentals beat Ithaca College on September 13 and SUNY Oswego three days later. They lost to Nazareth College on September 20, and now have a 4-1 record with nine more games to go.

Joe Hudson '10 scored the match winner for Hamilton in their home game for a 2-1 victory against Ithaca College. He decided the game with less than two minutes to go in the second overtime after a one-one tie at the end of regular playing time.

Both teams failed to record any goals in the first half. Ithaca College got off to the better start in the second half, scoring with just three minutes into the half. However, Jesse Arroyave '11 who had just come off the bench tied the game 15 minutes later. He profited from a failed save by Ithaca College's goalie. For the rest of the game, both keepers played flawlessly. Anthony Carello '09 collected eight saves in the second half, and both keepers combined to stop five shots in the two extra sessions until Hudson finally scored the game winner. Hamilton's win is even more impressive considering that team captain Max Akuamoah-Boateng '09 was not able to play due to an injury he suffered during the team's previous game. At the moment, it is uncertain when he will be able to return.

Three days later, the team recorded another win and their second shutout of the year. Head Coach Perry Nizzi's team defeated SUNY Oswego 2-0 on the road in their fourth non-league game of the season. SUNY Oswego had won its previous two contests. Arroyave recorded his second goal in three days, putting a twenty footer into the net in the thirty-eighth minute after receiving the ball from Frank Campagnano '12.

In the second half, Sam Dwyer '10 scored off of a perfect free kick, which sailed over the goalie's head with seven minutes remaining in the game. Keeper Carello had a rather uneventful afternoon, but was on his toes when it counted to stop both shots on goal.

Last Saturday, the Continentals suffered their first loss of the season, losing 0-1 to non-league foe Nazareth College. After a scoreless first half, the Golden Flyers scored with just two minutes into the second half. Despite holding a 14-7 advantage in shots, the Continentals were unable to find a way through Nazareth's deep defensive line for the rest of the game. Carello made two saves during the game, but had no chance of parrying Nazareth's score.

With a 4-1 record, the team is right on track for the Liberty League tournament. So far, Coach Nizzi has played 30 of the 37 players on the roster. For their next game, the Continentals host St. Lawrence University today for their Liberty League opener. It will be a rematch from last year's Liberty League final and will have major repercussions in the seeding for the league tournament later this year. St. Lawrence has a 5-3 record this season and is coming off of a huge 7-1 victory over SUNY Potsdam. On Saturday at 2 p.m. the Continentals will host Clarkson University in another key league match. Clarkson is coming into the weekend with a four game winning streak so the Continentals are going to have their hands full in ensuring their strong presence in the Liberty League this weekend.

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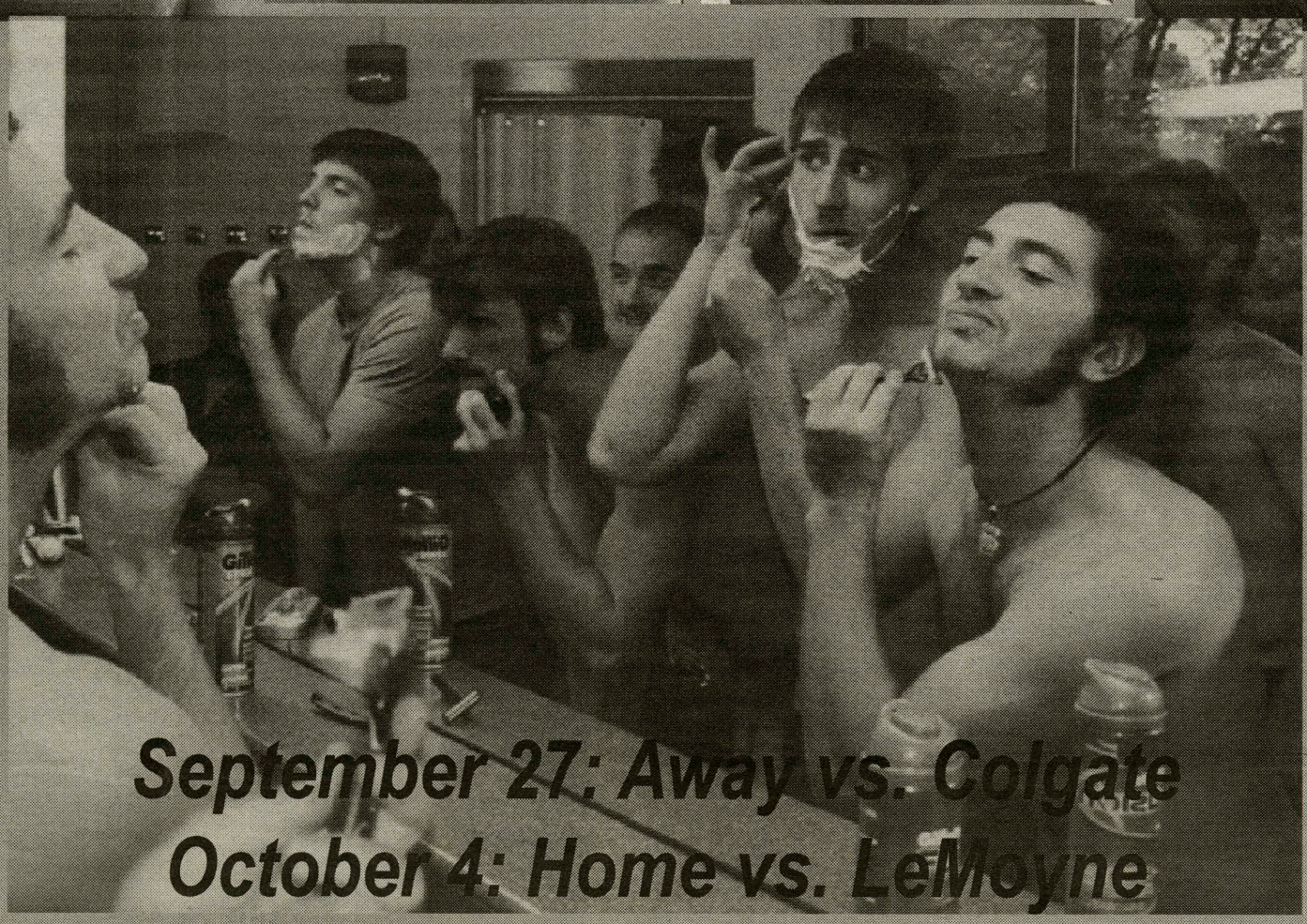

MUSTACHES

September 27: Away vs. Colgate
October 4: Home vs. LeMoyne

A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton, NY Volume XLIX Number 4

SPECTATOR SPORTS

September 26, 2008

No. Six Women's Soccer Takes on St. Lawrence

Hard-working Hamilton Players Earn League Honors, Remain Undefeated

by Lindsay Getman '10
Sports Editor

The currently undefeated and nationally-ranked Hamilton Women's Soccer Team has opened the season strong, winning three away games and two at home during the month of September. With a wealth of talent and an unbeatable work ethic, the team is poised to maintain their explosive success.

The Lady Continentals faced Rochester Institute of Technology in their season-opener on September 6. Erica Dressler '09 scored the first goal a few minutes into the second period. Lauren Farver '11 added a second tally, enough to secure a win over the Tigers, 2-1. The following day the team traveled to SUNY IT. The Lady Continentals annihilated the Wildcats. Dressler and Laura Brandimarte '11 each had two goals, while Farver, Megan Cairns '12, Jessy Gelber '09 and Makeda McGowan '12 each scored one goal. Hamilton outshot SUNY IT 45-3, and pulled off an 8-0 shutout.

Maggie Porges '09 says that part of the team's success "stems from our work ethic and really wanting to be out there and be competitive with one another."

The team builds on the success of past squads—a legacy of nine straight winning seasons, a 6-0-1 Liberty League Conference record last season and an 18-game regular season win streak extending from the 2007.

Porges added, "we had a great season last year, and I think the true testament of being a good team is being consistent."

Hamilton has indeed been consistent. The team won both of their home games against SUNY Cortland and SUNY Oswego. The game against the Cortland Red Dragons on September 11 was the first ever meeting between the two teams. Dressler scored one goal on a penalty kick, while Farver added another goal, assisted by Cairns.

Porges is one of only four seniors on the team, a group that also includes Dressler, Gelber, and Phoebe Potter '09. The team considers youth to be an advantage, as "the younger players are really going to step up and play well, and their performance thus far has been great," according to Porges.

Hamilton extended their home-field winning streak with a 5-0 victory over SUNY Oswego. They outshot the Lakers 30-6. The Lady Continentals have outshot their opponents 124-45 so far this season and scored 20 goals compared to their opponents' three. Dressler, Gelber and Graveley each contributed one tally against the Lakers, while Farver added two goals. Keepers Kate Fowler '10 and Hailey Bobin '12 split time in goal and combined for three saves.

The following week, Farver was named co-Offensive Performer of the Week. Her teammate, Dressler, received the same honor on September 22.

The Lady Continentals went on the road again last Saturday to face Nazareth College. Fowler put up a spectacular eight saves in a game that was much closer than past contests. Nazareth and Hamilton were dead even in shots taken— 17, but the Lady Continentals still pulled off a 3-1 win. Dressler was a relentless force on offense, scoring two goals and assisting Gelber on a third.

With such an auspicious start to the season, the team is keeping several goals in mind.

In addition to maintaining the consistent success that the program has become known for year after year, Porges says that the team would also like "to win at least ten games, get to the finals of our conference tournament and ultimately, we would also like to get back into the NCAAs and get the chance to prove ourselves again."

The Lady Continentals are not, however, just building on past success; they are reaching new heights. The team has been steadily climbing the rankings of the weekly NCAA Division III Top 25 coaches' poll, and this week jumped from 16 to no. six. This ranking is the highest in Hamilton College Women's Soccer program history, and it demonstrates just how special this year's team really is.

"We have a really fun team and like to laugh," Porges explains, "but ultimately we like to win and have to work hard in order to get the results we want."

The next game on the Lady Continentals' schedule will certainly be a test of how hard they have worked. Hamilton travels to St. Lawrence this afternoon to take on the only other remaining undefeated team in the Liberty League. The Lady Continentals will then face Liberty League competitor Clarkson at 2 p.m. on Saturday. The team will only play on Love Field four more times this season, which is a compelling reason for members of the Hamilton community to attend as many games as possible.

Most importantly, Porges says that the team is "really looking forward to playing [their] rival, William Smith, at home on Alumni Weekend with all of [their] fans watching." This game on October 4 is the next home contest on the schedule, and is a great opportunity for fans to show their support for such an outstanding and talented group of women.

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Midfielder Erica Dressler '09 controls the ball against SUNY Oswego.

Men's Golf Competes in NESCAC Qualifier

By Andrew Harris '11
Sports Writer

Coming off an eighth place finish at the Duke Invitational at Middlebury, the men's golf team was looking for an equally strong performance at the Williams College Fall Invitational, held September 20 and 21.

The Continentals started off strong on the 6,500-yard Taconic Golf Course in Williamstown, MA, scoring a combined 299 between four golfers. Brad Roche '11 led the way, firing a 72 on Saturday, while Scott Blosser '12 and Dave Christie '09 added 75s. After Saturday's round, the Continentals were in third place, two shots out of the lead.

On Sunday, Roche carded a 75, which left him tied for fourth place overall in the individual standings. Jeff Corbett '09 improved on his first day 77 with a 75 in round two, and Blosser and Christie followed with 78 and 79, respectively. Their two-day total of 606 strokes was good enough for fifth place out of 19 teams.

After their impressive showing at Williams, the team turned its attention to a smaller tournament at SUNY Delhi. Hamilton's 'A' team played fairly well, as Kevin Osborne '09 scored a 73, Roche a 74, and Blosser a 75. Led by Phil Preiss '10, who tied for medalist honors with a 70, and Kendall Weir '12, who shot a 74, the 'B' team turned in an impressive performance, finishing 12 strokes behind the 'A' squad. Both squads lost to their Delhi counterparts—the 'A' team by 12 strokes, and the 'B' team by eight.

As their season winds down, the Continentals approach their toughest and most important test to date: the NESCAC Championship qualifier. This year's tournament is being held at Middlebury College's Ralph Myhre Golf Course, a course that Hamilton has already played this year. The top four finishers in this tournament qualify for the NESCAC Championship in the spring, hosted by whichever team wins the qualifier in the fall. Last year, Hamilton hosted the fall tournament, in which it finished fourth, and then finished second to Williams in the championship tournament, held at Trinity College.

This year, led by Roche, Corbett, Christie, and a handful of freshman, the Continentals are looking to build on their success of last year. Williams again has a strong team this year, as does Trinity, and Middlebury has the advantage of playing on its home course. The Continentals tee off in the last group at 12:20 p.m. on Saturday, September 27, and their tee-off time on Sunday will be determined by their performance on the prior day.